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COGHLAN'S  
CHANNEL ISLANDS

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HAND-BOOK  
TO  
THE CHANNEL ISLANDS,  
INCLUDING  
JERSEY, GUERNSEY, ALDERNEY, SERK,  
HERM AND JETHOU:  
CONTAINING EVERY  
NECESSARY INFORMATION FOR VISITORS AND RESIDENTS  
RELATING TO  
HOUSES, LODGINGS, HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES,  
SERVANTS,  
SOCIETY, EDUCATION, CLIMATE,  
WITH THE PRICES OF PROVISIONS, WINES, AND SPIRITS,  
&c. &c. &c.  
ALSO EXPLANATORY  
CHAPTERS ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATES,  
ROYAL COURT,  
AND LAWS AFFECTING LANDED TENURE,  
INHERITANCE,  
LANDLORD AND TENANT, DEBTOR AND CREDITOR, POLICE,  
PORTERS AND BOATMEN, AND LOCAL CURRENCY;  
AND,  
A DESCRIPTION OF THE MOST REMARKABLE SCENES AND  
PLACES IN EACH ISLAND;

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BY FRANCIS COGHLAN,  
AUTHOR OF GUIDES TO PARIS, THE RHINE, ST. PETERSBURGH,  
&c. &c.

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LONDON:  
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BEST AND SNOWDEN, HIGH-STREET.

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M D C C C X L I I I .



## INTRODUCTION.

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THE CHANNEL ISLANDS, until within these few years, have been comparatively little known. The opening of the South-Western Railway has done more for Jersey and Guernsey than all previous Histories, Guides, or Advertisements—hundreds of pleasure-seeking travellers arriving by successive trains during the summer, without a fixed purpose, have been tempted by fine weather, and a novel excursion to step on board one of the well appointed steamers, bound for the *privileged* Islands; to say nothing of the pleasure of getting a goose for two shillings, or a glass of brandy for a penny!—let the motives, however, be what they may, the number of visitors, within the last few years, have wonderfully increased; although long affording a refuge to those valiant but ill-rewarded defenders of our country, where, surrounded by others similary situated, he preserves his *State* inviolate—free from the pressure of grinding taxation, he exists in comfort and comparative luxury upon an income, which, in England, barely afforded the necessaries of life. These classes, it is calculated, spend annually upwards of three hundred thousand pounds drawn entirely from the Mother Country!—a small sum compared to the amount spent by British Emigrants in France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland; it is to the large revenue spent by English residents

that Jersey and Guernsey owes much of its present prosperity—British money has converted the towns of St. Helier's and St. Peter's Port from congregations of dirt and filthy huts into well-built handsome towns. A long series of years of prosperity in smuggling and privateering never suggested to the natives the necessity of improvement for *themselves*, and the Island agriculture has been nursed unto unexampled prosperity by the invaluable privilege the *untaxed* farmers enjoy, of sending duty-free, the produce of their Islands to the taxed markets of Great Britain! This privilege, and the influx of British wealth, has made the Channel Islands what they now are, but it will require great improvements, not only in the laws but in their administration, before the Islands can become a desirable place of residence to those who possess the means of living elsewhere; although no place within the same distance from the "Great Metropolis," that I know of offers anything like an equal proportion of temptations as a *summer* residence, or for a short sojourn *en route* to Normandy, Tours, The Loire, or South of France.

STEAM PACKETS leave Southampton four times a week for Jersey, Guernsey, Granville, and St. Malo, always in the evening, so that, wind and weather permitting, you find yourself entering the Harbour of St. Helier's before you are "wide awake." The fares by the South of England Steam Navigation Company's Packets are—in the best cabin, 25s.; fore cabin, 18s.; steward's fee, 2s.; fore cabin, 1s.

## INTRODUCTION.

v

*Prices of Refreshments on Board*—Breakfast, 1s. 6d.; Dinner, 2s. 6d.; Tea, 1s. 6d.; fees to Stewardess, ladies, 2s.; children, 1s. Pier dues at Southampton—each Passenger 2d., each Parcel 3d.

Having determined upon the day for starting, it is desirable to secure a berth, by application either on board to the Steward (the vessels always lie along side the Pier), or of the Agent, at No. 71, High-street.

Persons intending to pass from Jersey into France should provide themselves with a passport, either in London, or of W. J. Le Feuvre, Esq., French Consul, 71, High-street, Southampton.



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## THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.

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### THE VOYAGE

In favorable weather is made in fourteen or fifteen hours—two hours to the Needles—six more to the Caskets—three to Guernsey—and three more to Jersey. This time, however, varies according to the tides, whether the wind is favorable or otherwise, but on an average the distance 145 miles occupy about fifteen hours, including a stoppage of an hour at Guernsey. The first Island seen after leaving the Needles is

### ALDERNEY,

distant from the Caskets about seven miles, ten from the French Coast, and about twenty-two miles from Guernsey; contains only one town, with about one thousand inhabitants. The appearance of this island is singular, owing to the very minute properties, and the curious way in which the crops are sown, which is in narrow

strips of different sorts of grain, lucern, clover, tares, potatoes, parsnips, &c. ; these lie in different directions, and to so great an extent has the division of property gone, that the farmer can scarcely find room to turn his plough on his own land. The total absence of farm houses and cottages, occasioned by the inhabitants living in the town, and the almost total absence of trees or plantations of any kind, give to the island a deserted aspect. The Alderney cow, so famed all over England, is little distinguishable from the best specimens of Jersey and Guernsey—indeed, the annual exportation of these beasts does not exceed, upon an average, eighty head of cattle. The pork reared on this Island is held in high estimation by the Guernsey people; many of their fat hogs will weigh as much as their well fed cows. Many of the inhabitants unite the trade of Agriculture with that of fishing; the lobsters caught are abundant, and form an article of export to England.

The mode of living in Alderney is primitive. Amongst the most respectable classes the income is from one hundred pounds to one hundred and fifty per annum, and even this expenditure can and does command a great deal—a tolerable house may be had from £10 to £15 a-year—meat and poultry cheaper than in the other Channel Islands—fish plentiful and cheap, and all exciseable articles can be brought from Guernsey at a very little advance over the prices of that Island; and it is a most convenient place to wear out your

old clothes ! The English residents are chiefly composed of half-pay officers of low rank, who rusticate here upon the miserable pittance which they have earned in their country's cause, remote from the din of the world—whose chief and only resource is their club—where, at most hours of the day, they are found discussing Island topics, or the events which agitate larger communities made known by the recent arrival of the mail. The climate of Alderney is less agreeable, though not less healthy than the sister islands ; its more northerly position, situate nearly opposite Cape la Hague, leaves the island exposed to N. E. winds, and fogs that sweep down the Channel—while the absence of wood leaves the course of the winds unbroken. From its exposed situation it is not to be supposed that the more delicate fruits and flowers will attain in Alderney the perfection which they reach in Jersey or Guernsey. It does not, however, appear that the winds and occasional fogs affect, in any degree, the duration of human life ; disease in the native is not common—life is long—the number of deaths being under two per cent. In personal appearance the natives do not differ from those of the other Islands—the Constitution consists of an Assembly called the States, composed of six jurats, the governor, and douzeniers. The jurats are elected by the rate-payers, which amounts nearly to universal suffrage—the inhabitants are formed into an island militia, composed of two hundred men, together with nine

pieces of artillery, and seventy artillery men. The little Island of

### BURHOU,

separated from Alderney by what is termed the “*Swinge*,” is peculiarly interesting to the naturalist; here is found the bird called the Stormy Petrel, and familiarly known to mariners as Mother Carey’s Chicken. The honey bee is found in the sands.

### THE CASKETS.

The Casket Rock and Light-houses form the extremity of a broken ledge which extend in a westerly and northerly direction—they are called by Camden, the Caskets, and are about seven miles distant from Alderney. The rocks are about one mile in circumference at the nearest or most northerly point. Guernsey is about fifteen miles distant. The rocks rise about thirty feet above the level of the sea, and the tops of the towers or lanterns are fifty feet high; the two southernmost towers are about fifty feet from each other, in an east and west direction. The lighthouse to the north of them is on the highest part of the rock, and twenty feet higher than the others, and one hundred and fifty feet distant. The area contains a plot of ground where a few vegetables are grown, in soil brought from Alderney; there is also a small house for the accommodation of the Agent of the Trinity-house when he has occasion to visit the establishments

—a bakehouse, workshops, &c. In each lantern a reflector, surrounded by a circle of argand lamps revolves horizontally by a single machine.

There are two landing places for boats; that to the S. W. is made by nature, in such a manner that a large vessel might lie in the harbour as in a dock, steps are cut in the rock, and convenient means to haul up the boats; the harbour to the N. E. is not so convenient. When boats approach the Caskets, signals are made to direct them at which harbour they are to land—a blue flag directs to the S.W.; a red flag to the N.E. Should a boat attempt to land contrary to the directions given by signal, it would be totally lost, and all hands perish. These rocks are steep and clean, with from twenty-five to thirty fathoms of water all round, —about twelve persons usually reside there. In 1744, the Victory, of 110 guns, with eleven hundred sailors and marines, foundered off the Caskets, and all on board perished !

The next Island we approach previous to entering the harbour of Guernsey is

### HERM,

the property of one individual, and contains about forty inhabitants, and being within half an hour's sail of St. Peter's Port, is frequently visited during the summer by the conchologist, who is rewarded by an abundance of shells of various descriptions, which are to be found particularly in the north-western and north-eastern parts of the Island:

there are stone quarries and mines of silver, lead and copper, but not of sufficient value to justify the expence of working them.

### JETHOU

is separated from Herm by a narrow but deep channel, is about one mile and a quarter in circumference, and, like its neighbour, belongs to one individual. With the exception of an orchard and a garden, there is little of the isle under cultivation, the rest is merely a warren where rabbits are to be seen in scores. Jethou is a very elevated and picturesque object, and, excepting at one spot, its sides are precipitous. The inhabitants number about six persons. Visiters to this and the adjoining Island should recollect that there is little or no accommodation to be met with, so that a basket of provisions will be an essential accompaniment in their excursions.

### ISLAND OF GUERNSEY.

For the accommodation of those who may land at this Island, we here give the regulations and fares of Boatmen and Porters.

No boatmen to be allowed to go on board the packets, or any of the other steam passage vessels. And to prevent the confusion arising in the latter on the delivery of the luggage, two trusty men belonging to the vessel will be placed, one at each gangway, to see every passenger's luggage delivered in the boat in which he embarks, and will call for a fresh boat as soon as one is despatched, one boat only at a time being permitted to come alongside of

each gangway. These two men are authorised to maintain order in the vessels and boats over which they are placed.

The fares to boatmen, from the first of May to 31st of October, both days inclusive, to be, when the vessels are outside the pier, sixpence for each passenger, ordinary luggage included; during the rest of the year, tenpence. When inside of the pier, or between the pier heads, threepence all the year round. All passengers by steam-vessels are bound to pay these fares, but the vessels are at liberty to land them when in or out of the piers. Passengers arriving and landing, and re-embarking without luggage—and persons from the shore going to, and returning from the steam passage vessels without luggage, to pay tenpence all the year round, or fivepence each way.—Waiters of hotels or taverns not to be permitted to embark in the boats or vessels for the purpose of recommending their respective houses.

#### PORTERS.

Every porter is to carry a brass badge, with his number on his left arm, and he is forbidden to touch the passengers' luggage or effects without their leave. The carriage of each passenger's effects to the hotels and lodgings at the lower part of the town, is to be sixpence only: any porter taking more will be subject to a penalty of 18 livres tournois.

In approaching St. Peter's Port the shores do not possess the same attractions as those of Jersey, being more sterile and wearing less the aspect of fertility. The tower built on the slope of a hill looks very picturesque from the sea, with Castle Cornet standing on a rock about half-a-mile from the shore. To the extreme right of the town stands Castle Carey, now in the occupation of John Carey, until lately an absentee from his native soil. Government House is a conspicuous building in the centre of the town near Elizabeth College.

The Harbour deserves no particular mention—it is small but of sufficient dimensions for the trade of Guernsey—the steam-packets seldom or ever enter it, but land and embark their passengers within half-a-mile of the piers; this, in rough weather, is very inconvenient, and could not be remedied except at high water, and even then at a great loss of time, but the boats are large and well built and under strict regulations.

### LANDING.

On nearing the piers the porters vociferate their respective numbers, to the annoyance of the passengers, who, if not obstructed in landing, are at least greatly inconvenienced and annoyed; this should be prevented by the harbour master, under whose jurisdiction they are: No. 7, extending his left arm, cries out "Monsieur"—No. 10 shoves No. 6 out of his way, with "stand back Jemmy the lady is looking for me," while No. 1 seizes the disputed trunk with a leer, bellowing out "every body prefers No. 1." You are next assailed with the names and localities of the hotels and boarding-houses—they are *Marshall's Royal Yacht Hotel, Gardiner's Hotel, Tozer's Hotel, and Shore's Boarding House*—this latter house has been established for many years, and those who prefer cleanliness, cheapness, and quietness to the bustle of an extravagant hotel, will find unostentatious but comfortable accommodation at Mrs. Shore's. There are several other houses of accommodation, but

they are not adapted to visitors. Lodgings may be had in various parts of the town and environs at various prices, from 10s. to 30s. a week, but altogether the accommodation is very inferior to Jersey, both in point of numbers, style, and variety of charges; and those who are not induced by some particular motive would do as well to avoid a landing at Guernsey, for although the town of St. Peter's Port is very pretty to *look* at, it is the most villainous town to *walk* through ever met with. The streets (if, indeed, they deserve the name) are narrow, winding, and steep, paved with rough stones, producing the most uneven surface, alike formidable to shoes and corns; but walk out in what direction you may, indications of wealth and comfort meet you at every step—detached villas, handsome built houses, shady avenues, and well kept roads—rendering the environs of St. Peter's Port still more delightful and pleasant, particularly when contrasted with the town you have just left.

The principle Institution in the Island is *Elizabeth College*, situate on an elevation above the town, with a large area around it ornamentally laid out. The building is spacious and handsome, its architecture is mixed, with a monastic air about it. The interior is admirably adapted to the purpose for which it was intended, and owes its origin to Letters Patent of Queen Elizabeth, by which in the year 1563 eighty quarters of wheat rent were assigned for the endowment of a school. From the date of its foundation up to its erection

into a College this Institution existed little more than in name; but, to the honor of the States of Guernsey, means were adopted in the year 1824 to place this establishment upon a more efficient footing: this has accordingly been done, and Elizabeth College, under its present management, offers great advantages for the instruction of youth.

THE WORKHOUSE, improperly called the Hospital, is also a very efficient establishment, as a refuge for the destitute, and for the young a seminary for instruction. The average number of inmates is about 100 men, 130 women, 50 boys, and 30 girls—it was founded in 1743.

THE NEW GROUND is the most delightful promenade in the two Islands, formed of fine gravel walks, with rustic seats, with a large area of grass in the centre, and surrounded with double rows of large trees; although comparatively neglected by the *Sixty's*, it affords a delightful walk, and beautiful sea views may be obtained from the upper side.

THE FISH MARKET is considered by Guernsey-men the pride and most interesting lion of the Island—it is a lofty narrow building, fitted with marble slabs, to the surface of which a plentiful supply of water is conveyed, and on some occasions the show of fish is various and plentiful, but certainly *not* cheap.

THE MEAT AND OTHER MARKETS adjoin the fish market. On Friday there is a good supply of pork; on Saturday (the chief market-day)

there is an abundance of vegetables, meat, poultry (chiefly French), and other good things, the prices of which are given in another part of this work.

THE POST-OFFICE is in the Arcade—letters are received until one hour before the expected arrival of the packets, unless they arrive in the course of the night, in which case letters must be posted before eight o'clock on the evening previous.

THE COURT-HOUSE is rather a small modern building considering the various uses to which it is applied—namely, a House of Lords and Commons, Criminal and Civil Courts of Justice, a Prison, and a Residence—Saturday is the chief court day for the trial of offenders.

THE CEMETERY, or New Burial-ground, lies behind the College, and is on an elevated position, from whence extensive views may be obtained; it was opened in 1831 for sepulchral purposes, and is sold in allotments to individuals, who are bound to conform to one design in all monumental erections.

The above places form the principal points of attraction in the town and its immediate neighbourhood, but as the entire Island may be traversed in a few days, I here subjoin a few instructions, by following which, all that is interesting may be seen in a convenient manner.

## FIRST EXCURSION.

The first object to be visited is Castle Cornet—to gain admittance, however, application must be made to the Secretary of the Governor, at Government House, any morning between the hours of ten and twelve; with this order in your possession, take a boat from the Pier, agreeing for price, and the length of time the boatman will wait; the inspection of this venerable bulwark will afford the antiquary an opportunity of observing where the feeble works of ancient warfare have partly given place to modern art. Returning, proceed up by the Markets, Mill-street, Park-street, you will pass various steam-mills; opposite is a fine nursery-ground; passing this, proceed straightforward on the Colborne Road; on the left is the neat retired mansion of Pierre Perceé, situated in a lawn, and well sheltered with trees, &c. Instead of turning to the right, which would lead to Mont Durand, or to the left, which would bring you to Mount Row, proceed straight forward in a northerly direction through Letite Marche: on each side of the road is a beautiful diversity of scenery and villas; entering Grange road and passing on to Doyle road, which crosses the Grange at a right angle, and turning to the left you come to some nursery-grounds, where a couple of hours may be most agreeably spent; leaving the nursery and proceeding to the right, you come to Candie road, on the left of which are many neat detached

mansions, inhabited by families of distinction; turning to the right you will find ready access into the new burial ground, opposite the wind-mill, on the summit of a hill; leaving the Cemetery by the gate you entered, (the lower gate is always kept locked except when funerals take place); the opening nearly opposite leads to the *Promenade*, or New Ground, described elsewhere; the large house on the right, on entering from the road, is the residence of — Piercy. Esq., who has a most rare and valuable collection of curiosities always open for the gratuitous inspection of strangers visiting the Island. Next to his urbanity is his hospitality—during the Summer months his table is spread with a cold collation, freely to be partaken of by all respectable strangers; it is to be regretted that Mr. Piercy is not the proprietor of Castle Carey, the magnificent residence of the Careys, where the ample dimensions of this fine building would enable him to do full justice to his hospitable feelings. On retracing your steps into the road, turn to the right into Amberst road, leading to some respectable houses erected on the site of **Amberst Barracks**, which formerly stood here; passing on, the North Coast and adjacent Islands present themselves—by continuing down the road with Vale Church, and windmill in the distance, you will come to Marsh Castle, commonly called Ivy Castle, having visited which venerable ruin, return to town by the sea-shore, proceeding to the left till you arrive at the road

that leads to it, and passing a strong battery on the left with a martello tower on the right, near Marine Cottage. On reaching Glatney, the esplanade leaves an open space much frequented as a promenade—this, as it leads to the town along the beach, commands a fine view of the harbour and adjacent Islands.

### SECOND EXCURSION.

To visit the southern and south-western part of the Island in order to inspect the bays and other indentations, many diversions must be made from the main road—after passing through Pedvin-street, Haute Villa, and George-road, on the left a road will lead you to Fort St. George, which you enter by a gate, and, leaving the Royal Engineer-office on the left, follow the road on the right leading to the Barracks. On entering the fort it is usual to send your name to the officer on duty, who will send an orderly round the ramparts with you. The Barracks form a square completely under cover of the works, but the barrack-master does not seem to care for the appearance of the various apartments, as brown paper and occasionally a piece of deal occupy the place of glass, which on entering gives a rather neglected appearance; but the view from the ramparts on a clear day is beautiful and extensive—you may discern the Caskets, Alderney, Cape la Hogue, and a long range of the French Coast, Herm, Jethou, Serk, and Jersey. On leaving the fort bear to the right

into the main road ; on the left is the mansion many years the residence of the late Bailiff of Guernsey, Daniel De Lisle Brock, Esq. ; on the right is Saumarez Manor House, a place of great antiquity ; immediately opposite is Farm Tavern, where refreshments may be had either indoors or out. At the east side of the Farm Tavern is a direct road to Doyle's Monument, which was erected in 1816 as a tribute of gratitude for the many improvements made by Sir John Doyle during his residence as Lieutenant-Governor ; it is ninety-six feet high—the key is kept at Monument Inn for the accommodation of strangers. The next interesting object is Jerbbourg Barracks, near to which once stood a strong castle, of which only a small remnant is now standing ; this was originally the Fort George of the Island ; here in the middle ages the whole of the inhabitants often took shelter from pirates. Returning to St. Martin's road near the Manor-house a road will lead you by a wind-mill to Moulin Huet Bay, by far the most bold and rugged scenery in the Island. Returning from this bay, the first road on the left leads you through a scattered hamlet to Saints' Bay, only separated by a promontory from that of Moulin Huet. Proceed now towards the village of St. Martin and from St. Martin's to the Forest, the land on each side is level and fertile in wheat and other grain ; the second road on the left will lead you to Petit-bo-Bay, to which the Forest Church and Village, with the relief of a few trees,

give a pleasing diversity. Return to the main road at the Village near the Forest Church. On proceeding towards St. Peter in the Wood the land becomes more sterile, with the exception of spots where extra cultivation has produced proportionate crops. The Church and Parsonage are pleasantly situated,—the present rector of this Church, Mr. Brock, has the granting of licenses for marriages—here then is the spot to drive to when anxious to tie the knot. Strangers in the Island require an inhabitant to accompany them, for the purpose of satisfying the parson's conscience that it is neither an illegal nor a runaway match! The road hence to Torteval commands a most extensive marine view, the hills are generally barren, but the vallies in which the villages are situated present a rich appearance. After inspecting the Church of Torteval, the next object is the Cave near Prevot Point; at some distance from the eminence you will have a full view of Hanois Rocks. On descending the Bay of Rocquaine you will observe the inroads made on the island by the sea. Return home by St. Saviour's, in which town there are two houses of entertainment in the rural style: after quitting St. Saviour's go through St. Andrew's, where the scenery is diversified with interesting villages and plantations of some extent, and the openings to the sea add a richness to every winding scene of the road. The whole of this delightful route is studded with neat and picturesque houses and villas. The road now leads by Mount Row and Mount

Durand to town, which you will enter by Country Mansell and Trinity Chapel.

### THIRD EXCURSION.

Proceed down Pollet-street, along the Esplanade, towards St. Sampson's, by Belgrave Bay. The Grande Maison near St. Sampson's is of considerable antiquity, with its Saxon doorways and windows coeval with the erections of the eleventh century. St. Sampson's Church also deserves attention. The harbour between this edifice and Vale Castle is commodious and well-sheltered, bidding fair to rival St. Peter's Port. Vale Castle stands at a short distance from the village of St. Sampson's on a commanding spot, and is well worth a visit. Having inspected Vale Castle, return to the village and proceed to East Vale road, near which stands a druids altar, and in diverging to the north you will have a full view of Fort Doyle and several martello towers. Landcrope Bay might, at a small expense, be made a safe and available harbour in time of war: near this spot, on a rising ground to the south, is another druidical monument, and in crossing the race-course you may easily trace the wall of St. Michael's Chapel and a cottage, no doubt the remnant of the cells belonging to that venerable building. Having inspected Vale Church and Cemetery at the west end, you will perceive a druidical *Kistaren* in good preservation, and on the Common another of lesser dimensions: to the west of the Church

is Grande Havre, from which the Braye du Valle was formerly inundated, but since the embankment has been made the sand has accumulated therein to a great extent, by which means in a few years that vast bay may become arable land. Leaving Vale Church on Saumarez-road the fourth turning to the right will lead to Grande Rocque—the scenery here is exceedingly pleasant and the opening of Cobo Bay at any season of the year is particularly delightful: to the right you will remark everywhere great accumulations of sand, and it is natural to infer that since Braye du Valle has been enclosed the currents have taken a different direction, yielding dry land instead of ocean. The last road from Cobo Bay leads you to the Lower Catel-road, and past the country seat of the Lord de Saumarez. Passing on and turning to the left you arrive at the Queen's Mills, which village is pleasantly situate in the lower part of a beautiful valley leading to St. Andrew's, and is well sheltered from the prevailing winds. In this village is a respectable house of entertainment, noted for the excellence of the accommodations in a rural style; from the Queen's Mills to town there are two roads, the upper road is the most pleasant, passing by Catel Church and several delightful villas, commanding a beautiful sea view; take the Rohais road, at the left of which are some nursery grounds, tastefully laid out, ascend the Rohais-road to the Grange, pass by Elizabeth Castle, into the town.

## CLIMATE.

The climate of Guernsey bears a great affinity to that of the South-west Coast of England. Dr. Clark considers it as intermediate between that and the Western parts of France; there is no doubt, however, that it is milder than the latter in Winter, and considerably warmer than the Southern Coast of Devonshire at all seasons, without however being much more humid.

During the spring the easterly winds generally prevail, while west are the prevailing winds during the rest of the year, as the shorn aspect of the trees in that direction of the coast indicates frequent transitions of temperature; and the prevalence of keen winds in the early part of the year, render that season trying to persons whose lungs are susceptible of such influences. The prevailing disease in Guernsey is that proteiform malady, dyspepsia, popularly misnamed biliousness; it affects the peasantry more generally than the town residents, in consequence no doubt of their meagre diet, it being a well ascertained fact that the agricultural population of both Jersey and Guernsey chiefly exist upon potatoes, fish and vegetable soup, innoculated with a lump of fat to give it at least the appearance of having fresh meat boiled in it—but such a luxury is never seen on the table of even a respectable Guernsey farmer except on Christmas day: on the whole this Island cannot be considered very healthy, as scarlet fever, measles, hooping-cough, and

epidemic disorders are more prevalent and less tractable than in England.

### THE STATES OF GUERNSEY.

#### MEMBERS COMPOSING THE STATES OF ELECTION.

The Bailiff, twelve Jurats, and Attorney-General....	14
The eight Rectors of the ten Parishes (the Vale and St. Sampson's, and the Forest and Torteval, being united .....	8
The two Constables in each Parish .....	20
The twelve Douzeniers in each, except the Town Parish (St. Peter-Port), wherein there are twenty, and the Vale having sixteen, making together ..	132

#### MEMBERS COMPOSING THE STATES OF DELIBERATION.

The Bailiff, twelve Jurats, and Attorney-General .	14
The eight Rectors of the ten Parishes .....	8
The united voice of the Constables and Douzeniers of each Parish .....	10

The Lieutenant-Governor has no vote —only a deliberate voice in the meeting of the States, which are held in the Royal Court. The Bailiff presides as Speaker.

### COURTS OF LAW.

The *Mobilaire Courts* are held on the Monday in which Pleas are determined for moveables or chattels, the parishes being divided into districts —the low parishes, viz., St. Peter-Port, St. Sampson, and the Vale, being assigned one Monday; and the high parishes, viz., St. Saviour, Torteval, St. Peter, the Forest, St. Martin, the Câtel, and St. Andrew, the next alternately.

On the Tuesdays following the Monday's Court for the low parishes, judgments or final decrees are given; and on the Tuesday next

after the Court for the high parishes, Courts of *Héritages* are held, termed *Plaids d'Héritages*, for the determination of all suits relative to real property.

The Saturday's Courts are held for the passing of contracts, admiralty causes, and criminal informations; the other intermediate days, in or out of Term, being devoted to the hearing of causes in general. But the Saturday's Courts, for criminal causes, last from the Chief Pleas of Easter to the middle of July; from Michaelmas to the Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in Advent, and from the 15th of January to the Saturday before the Holy Week.

GUERNSEY AND ITS SUBJECT ISLETS,  
Taken July 20th, 1841.

	HOUSES.			POPULATION.		
	Habit.	Unh.	Buil.	Males.	Fem.	Total.
GUERNSEY ....	4,153	211	29	11,539	14,319	25,858
Hospitals and }						
Prison ....	.....	.....	.....	216	215	431
Fort George .....	.....	.....	.....	271	146	417
Total ....	4,153	211	29	12,026	14,680	26,706
Alderney ....	225	31	....	500	530	1,030
Serk and Mer- }						
chants' Island }	130	.....	.....	394	396	790
Herm .....	7	.....	.....	22	16	38
Jethou .....	1	2	....	3	3	6
Caskets .....	2	.....	.....	3	5	8
Total ....	4,518	244	29	12,948	15,630	28,578

\* \* The relative British population in Guernsey is, we believe, only about one-seventh.

Leaving Guernsey and clearing Castle Cornet, we come in full view to the eastward, about seven miles distant of the Island of

SERK,

Nine miles in circumference, three in length, and about one mile in breadth. It is divided into two unequal portions, which go by the name of Great and Little Serk; it is a table land rising some little towards the west with a few vallies, but having no declivity to the sea at any part except a trifling one at the northern extremity. Although there are five landing places at different parts of the Island, there is no harbour where ships can lie, and but one beach where boats or small vessels can be wintered; and such is the nature of the cliffs, that, except at the Port Decreux there is hardly any entrance to the land except by climbing.

Little Serk is connected with the Great by what is called the coupée, which is a very singular lofty narrow ridge or natural bridge of about three hundred feet in length, which tapers as it ascends, and affords on its somewhat irregular summit a space sufficient for a rude footpath —this within these few years has been improved to the width of nearly four feet—on either side the sea washes its base; perpendicular cliffs of about three hundred feet on the eastern side, with shelving and broken rocks on the western give it a terrific appearance, and in many parts it is without any wall or defence of any kind.

As this narrow ridge forms the only communication between the two portions of the Island, which it unites as the neck of an hour glass does its two reservoirs, children of four and five years old are obliged to pass it and sometimes men heavily laden; although the least slip where the path narrows would render death inevitable. Serk contains a population of about eight hundred persons—the fertility of the land is greater than either Jersey or Guernsey, and the consequence is that nature does the greatest part towards procuring a subsistence for the agriculturist. The inhabitants of this Island live better than those of the same sphere in the other Islands (not a difficult matter either), plenty of fish, meat three or four times a week, and they indulge in butter; the *surplus* of every article they send to Guernsey market, where it meets with a ready sale. The incumbency of Serk is a perpetual curacy in the nomination of the Seigneur—the living is said to be worth £80 a-year with a good house. The Church, erected in 1820, is a neat and commodious building, with a free school for the instruction of one hundred children. The constitution and government of Serk forms a part of the bailiwick of Guernsey, and is under its jurisdiction in civil, military, and ecclesiastical affairs; but the legislative power as regards the local government of the Island is vested in the Seigneur and his forty tenants, who together form a little parliament, which assemble three times a year. This assembly is presided over by an officer

called the Seneschal, who has the cognizance of civil cases; but from this court an appeal lies to the Royal Court of Guernsey. The other public officers are a Provost, whose office is to plead the causes of the Crown, to regulate weights and measures, and to arrest for debt; a Registrar, who has the custody of the Records of the Island; and a Constable and his assistant, called Vingt-nier, who constitute the police of the Island. The Provost and Registrar are named by the Seigneur, and the police officers by the forty tenants.

In Serk, as in the other Islands, there is a militia consisting of upwards of one hundred strong and ten pieces of artillery. Altogether Serk is a remarkable place, its caverns, its steep and many coloured rocks; its fruitful and romantic vallies and dells, its singular laws and its natural fortifications, render it an object of peculiar interest to travellers who can afford to devote a day or two to its inspection. There are a few lodging-houses in the Island—for the use of bed-room and sitting-room strangers are charged from fifteen shillings to one guinea a week. Provisions are plentiful and cheap. During the time that the reader is perusing this brief sketch the steamer is rapidly approaching the beautiful Island of Jersey, for notwithstanding its abominable and absurd laws, its ignorant law-makers, its inefficient and irresponsible police, yet it is a beautiful spot and the approach to it on a *fine morning* is calculated to awaken those pleasing sensations

which must ever be excited on nearing the Island of

### JERSEY.

On rounding Elizabeth Castle we come in full view of Fort Regent, the town and harbour of St. Helier's, leaving to the extreme left the town of St. Aubin's, terminating the beautiful bay of the same name.

### BOATMEN AND PORTERS.

The following articles are extracted from a Jersey law concerning Boatmen and Porters, and are of great importance to strangers, as a guard against imposition.

#### BOATMEN.

" Article IV.—Every boatman employed to convey passengers shall wear a plate on his right arm, and shall have the name of his boat and the figure indicating the number of passengers he is authorised to convey, painted on the stern inside, and the number of his boat painted each side of the bow outside, according to the direction of the Harbour Master, under the penalty of ten shillings for each default.

" V. —Every boat's crew, conveying passengers, shall receive from each passenger (his ordinary luggage included) from the 1st of November to the 1st of April, a sum not exceeding :

	s. d.
From the Quay to a vessel in the harbour .....	0 4
From the Quay to the first buoy, outside of the harbour .....	0 4
Do. or from the slip near <i>rocher fendu</i> to the small roads .....	1 0
Do. beyond the hermitage or in the main roads ..	1 6

C

From the 1st of April to the 1st of November, from each passenger (including his ordinary luggage), a sum not exceeding :

	s. d.
From the Quay to a vessel in the harbour .....	0 3
Do. to the first buoy, outside of the harbour.....	0 4
Do. or beyond the slip near <i>rocher fendu</i> to the } small roads.....	} 0 6
Do. beyond the hermitage or in the main roads ..	1 0

These same sums will be exacted from these several places to the Harbour of St. Helier's, or to the slip near *rocher fendu*.

“ VI.—No boatman shall embark more passengers than the number enumerated in his license, under a penalty of ten shillings sterling for each default.

“ VII.—Any boatman to whom one or more passengers are willing to pay for the number of passengers for which his boat is licensed, is obliged to embark them, and to convey them immediately, under a penalty of ten shillings sterling.

“ VIII.—Any boatman exacting from one or more passengers a higher fare than is enumerated in the present regulation, will be liable to a fine of five shillings sterling.

“ IX.—All boatmen are responsible for the defaults of those who are employed by them.

## LANDING.

Should it happen to be low water, which for passengers is too often the case, the landing is made in boats, which at *very* low water must disembark on the rocks or be carried on men's backs and deposited like sacks of potatoes in a cart ; at other times the boats enter the harbour, and passengers quit them by steps at either of the piers ; indeed, when there is sufficient water

to admit the steamer into the port, so considerate are the *enlightened!* law-makers of the Island that, although the steamer touches the pier, you must land by means of a boat, at a great inconvenience and risk, for the purpose of being taxed for the support of a host of idle boatmen: yourself and luggage is then handed over to the tender mercies of the porters, whose numbers are again and again vociferated in your ears, which nothing can equal for noise and tumult that I ever heard. The touters of Calais or Boulogne are kept in subjection by the authorities, but here, alas! where law-makers are little better than old women, and the police affect to be gentlemen, these barbarians are allowed free scope to jostle, bawl, abuse, and insult you. You are then importuned by a new set of solicitors with "Are you going to the British Hotel? —to the Paris? —to the Union? —to the Royal? —the York? —or the London? —or Blanchard's Boarding House?" at the latter they profess to *take you in* for twenty-four shillings a week, but when you get out it is found to be thirty-four, to say nothing of being compelled to drink Marsalla for Sherry, at three shillings a bottle, which may be purchased at ten and sixpence a dozen at the most paltry wine store in the Island: well may Madame Blanchard prohibit her inmates from bringing their wines from the wine merchant. Visitors should resist this caper!

## PORTERS.

" Article XIV.—On the arrival of a boat to the steps in  
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the Harbour, or other landing place, no porter shall be allowed to go down to the said boat until all passengers shall have landed and are upon the Quay, under a penalty of two shillings and sixpence sterling, for each default.

“ XV.—Every porter is forbidden to take hold of the trunks or effects of any passenger unless with the express permission of the owner, under a penalty of ten shillings sterling.

“ XVI.—The servants of, or any persons employed by, passengers, may carry the effects of their respective masters, but must also wait until all passengers are upon the Quay, before they go down to the boat to bring the said effects, under the penalty of two shillings and sixpence sterling.

“ XVII.—The porters may demand the following prices for carrying trunks and other effects: viz., 9d from the landing place to the Hotels and Taverns in the neighbourhood of the Royal Square, and not further North than the said Royal Square, nor further East than the South of Halkett-Place, nor further West than the entrance of Pitt-Street; and one shilling and sixpence from the landing place to the other parts of the town of St. Helier’s: viz., as far as Plaisance, towards the East, and as far as the entrance of the high road of St. John’s towards the West, and as far as the high road of communication from Rogue Baullon by Du Val Street towards the north.

N.B.—The effects thus conveyed for the above fares is not to weigh more than eighty pounds.

### HOUSES, LODGINGS, HOTELS.

The houses in Jersey possess a fair average degree of comfort and convenience, and many are built in a superior manner, yet with the prevailing high winds they are mostly smoky; rents are higher than in any other place in England, London excepted, but there are comparatively no taxes. In board and lodging houses, or at the hotels, one cannot live cheaper than in

England, and, although lodgings during the summer are as dear as elsewhere, yet to persons keeping house the difference in the price of provisions, particularly exciseable articles, is very obvious. The hotels enumerated above are nearly on a par, roomy and comfortable, without any pretensions to either style or splendour.

*Hint.*—In hiring lodgings be sure to agree for attendance. It is the custom among very “well to do” Jersey people to do without a servant, and generally contrive to let the kitchen portion of the apartments without attendance, thus enabled to offer the apartments at a tempting low price; but

### SERVANTS

Are, next to the high winds, local laws, and smoky chimneys, the greatest nuisance in Jersey; the resident ones are bad compared with those of England, and good servants imported from the mother country soon become innoculated with the careless habits and flippant independence of their fellow-servitors in the Island; and what would be considered a good servant is as rare a commodity as a day without wind; therefore our advice is, should you require a servant of your own, take one from England by all means, unless you make up your minds to enjoy a monthly change and to wait upon yourself as much as possible.

AVERAGE PRICES OF VARIOUS ARTICLES IN THE  
JERSEY MARKETS.

(IN JERSEY CURRENCY.)

Bread,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. to  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., according to quality; and to the general question of plenty or scarcity of harvest, or to the various workings of the monopoly-system—very paramount in Jersey, in despite of no "Corn-Laws."

Flour,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. to  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., ditto, ditto, ditto.

Meat, 6d.  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. 7d. per lb.

Pork,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ d. to  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. according to quality; by the side, 5d. per lb.

Poultry—Geese, 2s. to 3s. each; Ducks, 1s. to 2s. per pair; Fowls, 2s. to 3s. 6d. per couple; Chickens, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per pair; Turkeys, 4s. to 10s. each, according to size and season; Turkey Poult, (fine) 2s. to 3s. each.

Fish—Generally dear, *for a place surrounded by the sea*, in consequence of the laziness of the Jersey Fishermen.

Butter, 1s. Summer; 1s. 3d. Winter.

Eggs, 9d. to 1s. per dozen, Summer and Winter.

Vegetables, according to season and crops; but generally very cheap.

Fruit—Generally dear, *for Jersey*.

Teas and Coffees—Gunpowder, 5s. per lb.; Hyson, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; Hyson Skin, 2s. 9d. to 3s.; Twankay, 2s. 6d. to 3s.; Souchong, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; Congou, 3s.; Coffee, 10d. to 11d.; Mocha Coffee, 1s. 10d. to 2s.; Bourbon ditto, 1s. 6d.; Chocolate, 1s. to 1s. 3d.; Cocoa, 10d. to 1s.

Sugars—Double Refined Sugar,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. to  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.; Single ditto,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Havannah,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 4d.; Brazil, 3d.

Red Wines—Port, (so called) 15s., 22s. 6d. to 25s. per dozen; Spanish, 10s. to 12s.

Clarets—Lafitte and Château Margaux, 50s. to 55s. per dozen; St. George, 12s.; St. Giles, 13s.

White Wines—Madeira, 30s. to 36s.; Sherry, the same; Malaga, 13s.; Marsala, 9s. to 13s.

Spirits—Brandy: Armagnac, 3s. to 4s. per gallon; Cognac, 6s. to 7s. 6d.; Jamaica Rum, 5s. to 6s.; Hollands, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.

Cigars, from 1s. 6d. the 100.

RELATIVE VALUE OF MONEY  
IN BRITISH AND JERSEY CURRENCY:  
Calculated from 6d. to £10.

British.		Jersey.		British.		Jersey.			
s.	d.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
—	6	—	6½	—	13	—	—	14	1
1	—	1	1	—	13	6	—	14	7½
1	6	1	7½	—	14	—	—	15	2
2	—	2	2	—	14	6	—	15	8½
2	6	2	8½	—	15	—	—	16	3
3	—	3	3	—	15	6	—	16	9½
3	6	3	9½	—	16	—	—	17	4
4	—	4	4	—	16	6	—	17	10½
4	6	4	10½	—	17	—	—	18	5
5	—	5	5	—	17	6	—	18	11½
5	6	5	11½	—	18	—	—	19	6
6	—	6	6	—	18	6	1	0	0½
6	6	7	0½	—	19	—	1	0	7
7	—	7	7	—	19	6	1	1	1½
7	6	8	1½	1	—	—	1	1	8
8	—	8	8	2	—	—	2	3	4
8	6	9	2½	3	—	—	3	5	—
9	—	9	9	4	—	—	4	6	8
9	6	10	3½	5	—	—	5	8	4
10	—	10	10	6	—	—	6	10	—
10	6	11	4½	7	—	—	7	11	8
11	—	11	11	8	—	—	8	13	4
11	6	12	5½	9	—	—	9	15	—
12	—	13	—	10	—	—	10	16	8
12	6	13	6½	—	—	—	—	—	—

\* \* \* In odd pence, there is no difference between the currencies.

††† WEIGHT.—The Jersey pound is equal to about 17½ ounces English.

**GUERNSEY CURRENCY.**—In Guernsey, French money chiefly circulates. The English sovereign passes for twenty-one shillings; but there is no premium, as in Jersey, upon English silver.

Having conned over the market table in the preceding pages, and noticed the difference in the currency, the newly arrived visitor will find that, upon comparing with the cost of the same articles in England, he will come to the conclusion that two hundred pounds a year in Jersey will produce the same amount of comfort that three hundred would give in England—the odd hundred going into the excise and custom-house gulph; but a resident will find sufficient alloy mixed up with these tempting benefits to make him exclaim—“England, with all thy faults, I love thee still,” and that it is, after all, the place most congenial to the feelings and habits of Englishmen.

### THE CLIMATE.

Next to the eating and drinking comes the very natural consideration—is the place healthy? is it mild in winter? and cool in summer? are there any fogs? much rain? Eh! To the first question the answer generally given is, the *natives* live long—to the second and third, more yes than no—to the fourth, more no than yes—and to the fifth, more yes than no! to these may be added high winds, and consequently rattling doors and windows and smoky chimnies; consequently it is by no means the paradise

of a region which Mr. Inglis describes it in his work on the Channel Islands—he says “that during the two years he resided there he never saw a flake of snow or any frost which did not yield during the forenoon, and from April till October fires are rarely necessary; and in one respect there is another decided point of superiority which Jersey possesses—it is the equability of temperature during the twenty-four hours. In England a hot day is often, in summer, succeeded by a chilly evening, but in Jersey the chill of the evening rarely admonishes one of the necessity of closing the windows.” We caution our friends and readers against this very pleasing picture of the climate. Mr. Inglis must have been very fortunate during his residence; in the winter of 1840-41 there was plenty of snow, frost, and ice in Jersey, so much so that the whole country, trees, houses, shipping, &c., was literally encased, and the snow lay on the ground for many weeks. On the 15th of Nov., 1841, there was a heavy fall of snow and a tempest of hailstones on the next day, with numerous chilly evenings following mild warm days, sufficient to give amateurs in open casements the rheumatism for life; but the general objection to the climate of Jersey is that it is damp, relaxing, and windy. This is true; but the effect of the two former may be counteracted to a certain extent by drinking copiously of cold brandy and water; and as the latter cannot be avoided, resignation with a good grace is strongly recommended.

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## SOCIETY IN JERSEY,

Both as regards natives and residents, is like that of most small places, split up into little coteries, each consisting of two or three individuals or families, who pay routine visits to each other and to nobody else, except on great occasions, when they congregate to dance at the Paris Hotel or to hear music at the Arsenal ; but even then the pert question is, "Who is going?" and such is the extent to which this exclusive system is carried, even amongst the tradespeople, that the chemist will not associate with the draper—the draper will not be seen with the grocer—the grocer turns up his nose at the tailor—and the tailor shakes not his bunch of fives with the snob. This system adopted and pursued by all ranks and classes, renders not only Jersey but Guernsey (where the different cliques are distinguished as sixties, forties, twenties, and tens) the most unsociable places in the world. Amusements, consequently, there are none, always excepting the movements at the signal post or the incomings and outgoings of the steam vessels. This want of general intimacy and friendliness in the community is enhanced by the fact, that the Channel Islands, and Jersey in particular, are a sort of refuge for the destitute—hence, all are suspicious of each other. For the same reason that the British residents look upon each other with caution and distrust, the natives, both gentle and simple, regard the

whole body of them with suspicion—added to their knowledge that Englishmen hate and ridicule their Norman laws and customs, and would fain see them superseded by those of England. The result of the last census, taken in 1841, rather startled the natives, by shewing that of the entire population of the Island one-third, and of the town population *one-half*, are British. This fact not only surprised the authorities, but not a little contributed to their increasing jealousy of English interference and English influence in the affairs of the Island. Hence it is that, with but few exceptions, between Jerseymen and the British there is very little social intercourse—much less any cordial, personal, or family intimacy. If the British residents look upon each other and the natives upon them all with suspicion, although they affect great partiality for the English—(J. E. Gold). The Jersey people themselves are politically as well as privately divided into two factions or parties—the laurel or high, and the rose or low—who hate each other more bitterly than rival actors; they seldom visit, seldom intermarry, seldom salute each other in the streets, and carry their mutual animosities into every action of their lives—public and private. The prosecution or defence of a criminal is too often made the vehicle of abuse from one party to the other, and a court of justice rendered the arena of political squabbles.

These jealousies form a great bar to popular

amusements, a defect which drives many families out of the Island after a few months residence. Although there are two theatres in St. Helier's they are scarcely ever open, and it is recorded that during the last twenty years but one occasion is known of the house being fully attended—a party of gentlemen laid a wager that they would get up a play and draw a full audience, they did so by giving *free admissions!* Thus it is, that those who visit Jersey as they would a popular watering place in England, for fun and frolic sake, speedily quit it in disgust, and justly spread for it a grieved reputation for social dulness among their friends at home. So with the rare exception of a concert, cricket match, or a Yankee Review, there is *nothing* stirring, but stirring your stumps.

### RELIGION

In Jersey is essentially Protestant. There are, however, a yearly increase of Catholics, principally Irish and foreigners—their number amounts to between two and three thousand. Of the Protestant community although all the Churches are devoted to the formula of the Church of England, full one-third are Wesleyan or other dissenters. Jews there are none, for a very good reason, although many have attempted to establish a domicile amongst the natives, they find Jerseymen too many for them.

## PUBLIC PLACES OF WORSHIP.

The following dates, recording the consecration, &c., will show the antiquity of the respective Parish Churches throughout the Island: they are extracted from an ancient manuscript among the records of Coutances in Normandy.

St. Brelade .....	27th May, A.D. ....	1111
	Rector—Rev. Ed. Falle, M. A.	
St. Martin.....	4th January .....	1116
	Rector—Rev. George Balleine.	
St. Clement.....	29th September .....	1117
	Rector—Rev. Philip Aubin, B.T.	
St. Ouen .....	4th September .....	1130
	Rector—Rev. Philip Payn.	
St. Saviour ....	30th May .....	1154
	Rector—Rev. Ed. Durrell, M. A.	
Trinity .....	3rd September .....	1163
	Rector—Rev. J. T. Ahier.	
St. Peter .....	29th June .....	1167
	Rector—Rev. Philip Filleul, M. A.	
St. Laurence .....	4th January .....	1199
	Rector—Rev. G. Duheame, M. A.	
St. John .....	1st August .....	1224
	Rector—Rev. Ph. Dupré.	
St. Mary .....	5th October .....	1320
	Rector—Rev. Ph. Guille.	
Grouville .....	25th August .....	1322
	Rector—Rev. John Mallett.	
Divine service is performed in the French language in		
the above churches, at eleven o'clock, on Sunday morning.		
Town and Parochial Church ....	15th August ....	1341
	The Very Rev. Frs. Jeune, D.C.L., Dean and Rector.	

Divine Service is performed in French in the morning on Sundays at eleven o'clock, evening at seven, and in English at half-past two; also on Thursday evening, in French, at seven o'clock. Officiating Ministers, Rev. Mr. Heath, in English, and the Very Rev. the Dean, in French.

**BAPTISM.**—At the Town Church, children born in St. Helier's Parish are baptised on Sunday mornings at nine o'clock, and on Wednesday and Friday before and after Service.

**BURIALS.**—There are two Burial Grounds in the parish of St. Helier, under the jurisdiction of the Dean, but none belonging to Dissenters. Charges for interment are as follows:—Breaking the ground for a stranger, one pound—Dean's fee; rated inhabitants exempted. Officiating clergyman, five shillings; clerk, two shillings and sixpence; sexton, two shillings and sixpence at the Strangers' Ground, and at the New Ground, three shillings and fourpence. Permission to erect a headstone, five shillings. Tombstone, from three to five pounds—Dean's fee.

**ST. PAUL'S CHAPEL**, New-street.—Officiating Minister, Rev. Mr. Gallaher. Service on Sunday in English at eleven o'clock in the morning, and seven in the evening.

**ST. JAMES' CHAPEL**, St. James'-street.—Officiating Minister, Rev. S. Langston, A. B. Service on Sunday in English at eleven o'clock in the morning, and at half-past six in the evening.

**ALL SAINTS' CHAPEL**.—Chapel of Ease to the Parochial Church of St. Helier's. Officiating Minister, the Rev. J. Meadows. Service on Sunday at eleven o'clock in the morning, and half-past two in the afternoon.

**EPISCOPAL CHAPEL OF EASE**, Gorey.—Officiating Minister, the Rev. C. Robinson. Service in English at eleven o'clock in the morning.

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### DISSENTING PLACES OF WORSHIP.

**CALVINIST CHAPEL**, Upper Halkett Place.—Service in

the French language by the Rev. C. Perrot, at half-past ten in the morning, and at half-past six in the evening.

**CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL**, Union street.—Service in English at eleven o'clock in the morning and half-past six in the evening.—Officiating Minister, Rev. Mr. Unwin.

**ALBION CHAPEL**, New-street.—Service in English, at eleven o'clock in the morning and half-past six in the evening.—Officiating Minister, Rev. Mr. Jarvis.

**SALEM CHAPEL**, Ann-street.—Officiating Minister, Rev. J. Carré, in the French language.

**WESLEYAN CHAPEL**, Peter-street.—In English, at eleven o'clock in the morning and six in the evening.—Officiating Minister, Rev. Mr. Hope.

**METHODIST CHAPEL**, Don-street.—In the French language, at half-past ten in the morning, and half-past six in the evening.

**ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL**.—The Roman Catholics have three Chapels in St. Helier's; one in Hue-street, in English—Officiating Minister, Rev. Mr. Cunningham,—service at half-past eight and eleven o'clock in the morning; one in Castle-street, in the French language.—Officiating Minister, Rev. M. Morlais,—and a third lately built at Vauxhall.

## THE STATES.

This body is composed of the Governor or his representative the Lieutenant Governor, the Bailiff, the twelve Jurats, the twelve Constables, (representatives of the parishes) and the twelve Rectors of the Parishes. The Attorney-General and Solicitor-General have the right to address the Assembly, but have no vote. The Greffier (Registrar) of the Royal Court is also Greffier of the States. There is also attached to this body

the Deputy-Viscount (under-Sheriff) and his three men of business under the title of dénonciateurs. There are no fixed periods for the sittings of this body—they are summoned by the Bailiff when he considers it necessary, and of course when the Jurats, who are composed of farmers, merchants, shop-keepers, boat-builders, &c. can spare a few hours from their multifarious avocations—and if the country representatives (the constables) are not engaged in ploughing their fields, gathering sea-weed, or carting manure, it is possible that a sufficient number of members may attend to form a court—there are no continuous sittings—the members remain for a few hours—begin discussing a project de loi—pass two or three clauses perhaps, and then these patriotic legislatures sneak away to dinner or elsewhere, leaving the embryo law “on the table,”—and to their President the pleasing task of summoning them again at some future day, to enact the same farce of carelessness and inefficiency.

The consequence of this system of procedure is, that every thing is dabbled with, and nothing, or next to nothing, concluded—and it seems an understood thing, that what Mr. Godfrey proposes, Mr. Le Seur opposes—and what Mr. Le Seur proposes, Mr. Godfrey opposes—thus, not only the time of the States, but indeed of every assembly where these two persons can thrust their bodies, is wasted by their petty jealousies and eternal bickerings, who, at the time we write,

are the constables of the parishes of St. Helier's and St. Saviour's; and although the legislative power is lodged in the persons above-named, no law for the raising of money, or *permanent* law is valid till it has been sanctioned by the Queen in Council, but these superlative legislators are attentive and cunning enough to promote their own interest by enacting laws *temporally*, that is for three years, and then renewing them, by which they evade the spirit of the constitution—which provides, that no really permanent law shall have force without the Royal sanction; in addition to this trickey legislation, it must be obvious that, in an assembly thus composed, public opinion can have little or no influence. The Parsons and Jurats entirely irresponsible to the people—the former nominated by the Crown, and the latter being elected for life, are beyond all popular control—so that there is but one-third of this wretched apology for a legislature upon which public opinion can at all operate. The Constables, I beg pardon, the Representatives of the people, are not elected at one and the same period.—Oh! dear no! they are elected for three years, but so arranged that one election takes place this month, another two months after, and so on, as the period of the three years terminate, so that popular feeling becomes tired out and tamed by endless procrastination—so that prevalent public opinion never can energetically manifest itself through the voices of the whole elective body; but there is a broaching

storm that will burst one fine morning upon the heads of these besotted and illiberal legislators !

The discussions (for debates they cannot be called) are carried on in the commonest conversational tone, any thing bordering upon eloquence was never heard within the walls ; but how can it be otherwise, when the majority of its members are destitute even of the common rudiments of education, although it is so very cheap ; but this state of things cannot be allowed to continue long, reform must and will come, and the blinded and ignorant authorities here will find, when too late, that their resolute and systematic refusal to assimilate, even gradually, their institutions to those of the British people, who, at the present moment, amount to near half the entire population of the Island, and whose ranks are daily thickening around them, will lead to the entire abolition of Norman Laws, Norman Institutions, Norman Privileges, and Norman Language.

### ROYAL COURT

composed of the Bailiff, nominated by the crown, and twelve Judges, chosen without reference to educational qualification by the rate-payers. If a person were to sit down deliberately to devise a constitution for a Court of Justice, which should contain every possible defect and vice destructive of its efficiency for its ostensible object, he need only copy faithfully the Constitution of the Royal Courts of the Channel Islands. The combination of judicial with legislative

functions admitted by the most eminent jurists to be utterly fatal to the calm and impartial administration of justice; the choice by popular suffrage for life of any body, no matter whom, lawyers, farmers, merchants, or tradesmen, to fill the high offices, and perform the lofty functions of combined Equity, Common Law, and Admiralty Judges, a bar consisting of six persons only, and they nominated by the Chief Magistrate—criminal prosecutions, commenced, carried on, or abandoned, at the pleasure of practically irresponsible Crown Officers; in civil cases no juries to check the Judges, and in criminal cases, the police absolutely performing the functions of a Grand Jury, acquitting, condemning, or sending before the “*Grande Engnête*” whom they please. The *Grande Engnête*, consisting of twenty-four persons, chosen and summoned by the Crown prosecutors, constitute altogether one of the most efficient instruments to work out injustice, that ever the wit of man devised—ignorance and irresponsibility are its essentials—delay and injustice its results. The Judges, no doubt well meaning persons, are passive and helpless automatons, set in motion by lawyer’s tongues, and fettered by custom and the consciousness of utter ignorance of the principles and practice of legal science; they are thrust forward as an appliance to varying exigencies—are hopeless and helpless spectators and assistants in a tragicomedy, over the incidents of which they have

no control whatever, exposed to the sneers and accusative challenges of advocates, without power to make rules for the guidance of the court, or for checking unruly tongues—they present exactly not the picture of good men striving with adversity—but of ambitious men, struggling with the difficulties of a position which they are incompetent to fill with any thing like credit to themselves or benefit to the public.

The Judges, instead of being the masters, are the lacqueys of the court; their scarlet robes are the livery of their ignoble servitude, and they toil ingloriously and gratuitously in the service of their masters the lawyers, to whom their assistance in fleecing the people is indispensable, but who deny them all share of the plunder they extract.

The composition of the Court is yet more absurd than its method of procedure. First, as to criminal causes of any magnitude—a report is presented, generally on a Saturday, before the Court, by a constable or centenier of the parish in which the offence is alleged to have been committed; thereupon the Crown officer moves that the report be entered and that he be allowed to prosecute—granted, of course—if it be not a bailable offence, or the prisoner be unable to procure bail, he is remanded to prison and from time to time, often with long intervals between each several hearings, he is brought up in order to listen to the depositions of witnesses. There are often two, three, or four of these

examinations at once, and the following is the Norman method of eliciting the truth. The Bailiff appoints one of the scriveners of the Court to sit beside each witness, to take down his or her testimony in writing—the farce thus begins :

“ Question,” bawls out the Crown officer, addressing one of the witnesses, and the appropriate clerk pricks up his ears and prepares himself to duly set down the said forthcoming question.

*Attorney-General* : Question—“ Did you see the prisoner at the bar, &c. &c.”

While the attending scribe is writing the question down, and, before the answer is returned, the counsel for the prisoner calls out to another witness—“ Question,” and his or her ministering amanuensis prepare his ears to hear and his fingers to write down his forthcoming query.

By this time the first employed scrivener has fairly written out his question, and, rising, reads it deliberately—so that the Attorney-General may be sure he has committed no error; and the witness having now had some minutes to prepare his answer, answers accordingly ! After this droll work has gone on for an hour or two, the Judges, who sit like automatons witnessing this scene, get tired, the evidence extracted in this extraordinary manner is subscribed to, the Court breaks up, the officials go to dinner or billiards ! and the accused returns to gaol. This proceeding drags its slow length along for months, till, the evidence being exhausted, the Crown officer causes twelve police officers ! to be empanelled

as jurymen (no challenge except for clearly stated reasons, of the force of which the Court are the judges, being allowed), and this sham jury, the base counterfeit of a glorious constitution, hear the sworn depositions gabbled over, the advocates plead, and the verdict is returned.

The Crown officer then draws his conclusions, that is, asks the Court to inflict a certain punishment, which, however severe or otherwise, is usually agreed to.

Thus no criminal process could be more happily framed for promoting perjury, delay, and injustice. The jurymen, such as they are, are incapable of judging the value of the evidence laid before them; the tone, the deportment of the witnesses, the hesitation or frankness with which they may have spoken, are all unknown to them. That excellent, though sometimes abused, method of extracting truth from an unwilling or perjured witness, a rigid and rapid cross-examination *before* the jury—giving the swearer no time to recover one bewildering blow before another is inflicted—is, of course, never practised; in fact the Norman system of examining witnesses ought to be entitled perjury made easy, and not the slightest dependence should be placed upon verdicts based upon evidence so taken and so communicated. There is another terrible disadvantage which the accused labours under, if he be an Englishman—the proceedings are carried on in a language unintelligible to

him—'tis true that his counsel communicates with him, but the prisoner is incapable of detecting inaccuracies or contradictions that may occur in the evidence, and of suggesting questions to his counsel which might possibly invalidate the evidence of the accusers, and thus, in dumb-show to the unfortunate individual, is carried on a scene, the catastrophe of which is to be his death or dishonour, or his acquittal and restoration to society. In no country in the civilized world does any system so barbarously disgrace a court of justice.

Civil suits are conducted not one tittle less absurdly than criminal prosecutions—not having even the form of a *bastard jury*.

The following is nearly the history of a defended Jersey Law Suit :—

An “Action,” if it be in term time, is sent to the defendant; after a long delay and after his being summoned perhaps a dozen times before, the case is called on before the Inferior Court, as it is called, consisting of the Bailiff and two Jurats. The plaintiff’s counsel states his case—the defendant makes a preliminary plea, perhaps one of the i’s in the summons has not been dotted, or some other equally fatal objection is taken to it, and the case is at once dismissed. If this should be impracticable and all preliminary pleas fail, the facts in the plaintiff’s case are denied, and it is “then sent to proof,” that is to say postponed to another term to be then summoned anew and witnesses heard; after which

the Inferior Court give judgment unanimously or by majority, the Bailiff having the casting vote, and if the sum in dispute be more than five pounds, the defeated party may appeal to the "Corps de Cour," consisting of seven Jurats, who, when they can be got together, sit as a final Court of Appeal in all cases where the sum claimed does not exceed eighty pounds; in cases where that sum is exceeded, an appeal lies to the Judicial Committee of the English Privy Council. The appellant has now six months to decide whether he will prosecute his appeal or not, during which time the *victor* of course labours under all the anxiety and worry, incident to, and inseparable from, protracted law suits; but, in fact and practice, the time which he may be held in suspense is limited to no such comparatively brief period; many appeals continue in force for years and years without being heard, from the sheer impossibility of getting a sufficient number of the Jurats together—some are out of the Island, others old and sickly, some are challenged by one of the parties as not fit to judge in that particular cause\*. These long delayed ap-

*Tuesday, July 5th, 1842.*

\* A recent cause came before the Court, when it was discovered that all the Judges were so connected with one of the litigants that they could not act.

BEFORE SIR JOHN DE VEULLE, KNIGHT, BAILIFF, AND  
THE JURATS PH. LE MAISTRE, BISSON, AND EDWARD  
NICOLLE.

A cause was called against the Procureur of MRS. SARAH  
FIOTT, Lady of the *Seigneurie and fief of Méleches*. The

peals are productive of the most horrible injustice to parties, who, having *no landed property in the Island, are subject to personal arrest for the most trifling sum!* and on strangers—English strangers that the weight of this unjust practice falls—who can seldom find bail for his appearance, and, however illegal may be the claim for which he is sued, his body must remain cooped up in a dungeon, should it so please his creditor, till the whole machinery of the Court has been worked through deliberately and systematically. Again, a man may be arrested for a trifling sum and lodged in prison in default of bail—the claim may be unjust, and, after a great outlay of money and a delay of many months, the unfortunate defendant may succeed in obtaining a favourable judgment from the Inferior Court; but he is no better situated than before—his adversary “appeals,” he is re-conveyed to his cell to await the result of that appeal, and years may elapse before it will be possible for

Bailly and Judge EDWARD NICOLLE declared they were *tenants* of ground on the fief.

Advocate GODFRAY said then, *there was not a single Judge of the Court who could decide the case.* Judge D'AVRANCHE owned *some of the ground*, Judge DE STE CROIX, a relation of Mr. JOURNEAUX, was a proprietor, Judge BERTRAM, possessed some at Portland Place, on the same fief. Judges LE COUTEUR and P. W. NICOLLE were related to Judge EDWARD NICOLLE, who possessed a part, and Judge PICOT's relation also possessed some. Judge BISSON also possessed a part of the fief of Méleches, in the parish of St. Laurens.

him to obtain a full Court to confirm or disallow the judgment of the Court below. This is no fiction, we are not dilating on contingencies that, however *possible*, do not practically occur,—such things happen every day, individuals labouring under this grievous wrong, this agony of hope deferred, are at this moment suffering indefinite imprisonment from this vile mockery of law. The most flagrant cases of injustice are constantly recorded in the Jersey English papers.

We have now given an outline of the Constitution and working of the States and Royal Courts of Jersey, and the intelligent reader will at once perceive that every ancient practice, which experience has proved to be vicious and absurd, is maintained with religious care. The nomination of Jurats by popular suffrage and their consequent incompetency as Judges, their nomination *for life* and consequently their irresponsibility as legislators, not only the manner of the choice but its irreversibility, all concur to render this elective process an admirable engine for saddling the Island with ignorant Judges and self-sufficient people, defying law-makers. Six centuries ago one of the bitterest complaints urged by the English people against King John was, that he appointed men who were not lawyers to judicial offices; if the evil had been self-inflicted it would not have been less intolerable, but the Jersey people hug the plague which the English were sufficiently advanced in civilization to throw from them in the twelfth century, and it has

tainted foully that which is the life-blood of a prosperous and happy community—the impartial administration of justice by competent and independent persons : and it is not the least vexatious part of the affair that these Island plagues press with the greatest force against strangers, nor is it only the *resident* stranger who suffers from the law's delay, the mere *temporary guest* is subject to the same curse—if a casual visitor happen, however innocently, to get into any *demêlé* with the police, or insignificant quarrel with any other person, there is no sitting magistrate to examine the case ; unless he can compromise it with their highnesses the police by pecuniary sacrifice or personal humiliation, he must give bail, remain in the Island till the report has been entered, the Attorney-General taken his informations and found leisure to have the witnesses examined ; then he must wait, heaven knows how long, till a day can be obtained for its being heard, perhaps too, on the very day appointed for its hearing, it is discovered by a cunning advocate, who has no doubt some good reason for the discovery, that that identical day is some particular Saint's day, or All Saints' day, or Saturday before Communion Sunday, in which event the case is invariably adjourned *sine die*. Instead then of subjecting yourself to this process (which in ninety-nine cases out of one hundred will be given against you) stomach the insult, pay towards the poor, apologise to the police, put your apology in the newspapers, look up your

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traps and embark on board the first steamer, and thank your stars it is no worse. So much for the liberty of the subject—so much for the administration of the laws, criminal and un-civil.

### LANDED TENURE AND INHERITANCE.

Purchasing land or houses in Jersey is rather a ticklish affair—English gentlemen are cautioned against doing so, until he has lived sufficiently long in the Island to become acquainted with the circumstances of the sellers of such property, otherwise he runs the following risks:—If he buys a house, or a given quantity of land, his quiet enjoyment of that property depends upon the solvency of the individual from whom he purchases; not his apparent solvency at the time of the purchase, nor with respect to his liabilities on the property bought of him, but in regard to the incumbrances on the *whole* of his landed estate, however extensive. It is true, that by a careful examination of the register at the Greffier's office, persons fully conversant with the value of landed property in Jersey may arrive at a satisfactory estimate of the risks which he runs by purchasing: not so with the stranger, who, of course, imagines that if he buys a house and land for one thousand pounds, and pays the cash down, the property is his own; he will probably find, as thousands have found before, that he has committed a grieved mistake, and that he has simply advanced money on possibly a fiftieth mortgage on the *whole* of the landed

property of the seller, however free from incumbrance the books of the Greffier may show the particular property he has purchased to be.

The following every day illustrative will more fully explain the system :—

Mr. Smith, we will suppose, just arrived from England and purposes taking up his residence in Jersey, he takes a fancy to a convenient house and grounds, which he sees advertised “*à bailer à fin d’heritage*,” that is “*to be sold*,” he purchases the house and grounds, and pays off all mortgages or “*rentes*” which have been created upon it. Well, the property, of course, is his own, beyond the reach of accident (?) Not at all! Many years afterwards, perhaps an officer of the Court sends Mr. Smith a legal notice that the person of whom he purchased the property has become a bankrupt, that a certain day is appointed, on or before which all claims on the real estate must be sent in, and that on that day some one of those persons who have claims on the landed property of the insolvent, must elect to make himself “*tenant*” of the entire estate, binding himself to pay all previous claims, *rentes*, “*arriérages de rentes*,” &c., or give up whatever landed property they have ever purchased of him! The simple note of astonishment is not sufficient to convey any thing like the amazement that must take possession of the reader of these pages; but it is not only the law, but a law that is of so frequent an occurrence, that many a duped Englishman, aye, and Irishmen too, have cursed

the day upon which he was ever induced to lay out his cash in house or land in Jersey; and many of the knowing tribe of lawyers have enriched themselves by becoming *tenant* to the estates—the precise obligations, liabilities, and nature of which only such men can understand.

The following statements copied from the *Jersey Almanack*, will fully open the eyes of would-be landowners in the Island, to whose serious consideration we submit them.

The following is the legal formulary which cheats the unsuspecting dupe out of his paid-for Cottage and Grounds: Mr. Smith waits on the Deputy-Viscount, on the day named, and there finds a list of the liabilities and mortgages of the entire landed estate of the Bankrupt, on which *entire* estate the silly Englishman finds he has a *lien* to the amount of the money with which he foolishly supposed he was buying a house and garden. Mr. Smith looks over the list, and finds it, perhaps, about as follows:

	£.	s.	d.
M. Godfray, January 9, 1821 .....	3000	15	4
M. Le Gallais, February 12, 1822 ..	976	9	2
M. La Folie, March 7, 1832 .....	494	3	0
M. L'Aveugle, May 9, 1833 .....	876	9	0
M. La Bête, June 12, 1838 .....	491	15	0
Mr. SMITH!!! April 1, 1840 .....	276	12	0
<hr/>			
	6116	3	6
Estimated value of estate (including Mr. Smith's cottage) }	4000	0	0
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Balance against estate .....	2116	3	6
<hr/>			

Now begins the (to Mr. Smith) very interesting and very conclusive ceremony.

*Deputy-Vicount (M. Le Gallais\*.)*—“Mr. Smith, your's is the last name on the list: do you elect to be ‘tenant’ of this estate”?

*Mr. Smith.*—“Tenant? What do you mean by tenant? I bought and paid for my house and grounds! What have I to do with the fellow's estate”?

*Deputy-Vicount (in his blandest manner.)*—“My dear Mr. Smith, you are in error; you must either elect, you being the last purchaser on the real estate of the insolvent, to make yourself ‘tenant,’ that is, to take possession of the whole landed property of the unfortunate bankrupt, and pay all claims incurred previously to your purchase, or give up your cottage and grounds!”

*Mr. Smith.*—“Zounds and the devil! Sir, what do you mean? There are no liabilities on my house; I took good care to ascertain *that* before I paid my money. What, in the — name, do you mean by asking me to encumber myself with this man's debts and property?”

*Deputy-Vicount.*—“My dear Sir, that is the law.”

*Mr. Smith.*—“Then, Sir, I'll have nothing to do with it.”

*Deputy-Vicount (to the Clerk.)*—“Erase Mr. Smith's name from the list of claimants on the estate: he refuses to become ‘tenant.’”

\* M. Le Gallais is no longer Deputy-Vicount.

(Exit Mr. Smith, in a rage; which does not, however, prevent him from being very speedily ejected from his paid-for cottage and ground.)

*Deputy-Viscount.*—“Mr. La Bête—Do you elect to be ‘tenant’?”

*La Bête.*—“No”!

*Deputy-Viscount.*—“Mr. L’Aveugle?”

*L’Aveugle.*—“No”!!

*Deputy-Viscount.*—“Mr. La Folie?”

*La Folie.*—“No”!!!

*Mr. Deputy-Viscount.*—“Then, I declare myself ‘tenant’ of this estate”!!!!

Thus ends this precious farce—Messrs. Smith, La Folie, La Bête and L’Aveugle are struck out from the list of claimants, and Monsieur Le Gallais becomes ‘tenant,’ only having M. Godfray to pay!

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These are the imminent risks a stranger runs in purchasing landed property. In the instance we have given, even if the Bankrupt’s property had been fully worth the whole of the claims against it, including Mr. Smith’s, it might have been entirely out of the latter person’s power, or repugnant to his inclination, to become the “tenant,” or proprietor, of so large an estate. As we have remarked, the apparent solvency of the seller, at the time of purchase, is no real guarantee to the buyer; and this is especially the case if the property consist of houses. The proprietor estimates them at, perhaps, ten thousand pounds; and if there appear only six thousand pounds registered against him, it seems entirely safe to deal with

him—a grievous error; for the unlucky purchaser will find, when the bankruptcy comes, that the property has suddenly fallen marvellously below the sum at which the sanguine fancy of the owner had estimated it; besides which, the “*arriérages de rente*,” that is, *three years' unpaid interest of the previous mortgages, must be paid by the “tenant,”* as well as the whole of the legal costs incurred—and Heaven and the Lawyers can alone guess to what they may amount! In purchasing of individuals who have very little more property than that of which they dispose, the risk is proportionably as great. Let us suppose another Mr. Smith, a gentleman of limited income who purchases a small tenement, or cottage, of a person who has only one other and similar house. Mr. Smith agrees to give one hundred pounds, which he considers a great bargain; but Mr. Smith is a cautious man, and having heard something of these land man-traps, consults a lawyer, who very minutely examines the books at the “*Greffier*,” and finds the seller’s liabilities only amount to eighty pounds. “Well! there can be,” says Mr. Smith, rubbing his hands, “no great risk here: if I am obliged to become ‘tenant’ at any future time, I shall be safe from loss”; and Mr. Smith is a joyful man, congratulating himself that, with his one hundred pounds, which would have returned him scarcely four pounds per annum in the funds, he has secured a snuggery for himself and Mrs. Smith for life, and for the little Smiths after them. An unsubstantial dream,

we assure you, Mr. Smith; as the following amusing document may prove to you any number of years afterwards. We must re-introduce the reader into the Deputy-Viscount's parlour, where we shall find that worthy functionary and Messrs. L'Adroit, Grasp, Smith and Simple, in earnest consultation over the following, to Mr. Simple especially, infernal combination of words and figures:

STATEMENT OF REGISTERED CLAIMS ON THE PROPERTY  
OF M. L'ESCROC, BANKRUPT IN 1841.

	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
July 8, 1826.—M. L'Adroit .....	50 14 0	
3 years' "arriérages de rentes,"	7 11 0	
	<hr/>	58 5 0
Sept. 14, 1830.—Mr. Grasp .....	31 0 0	
3 years' "arriérages de rentes,"..	4 13 0	
	<hr/>	35 13 0
May 4, 1836.—Mr. Smith .....	100 0 0	
June 1, 1840.—Mr. Simple's two registered notes of hand .....	67 0 0	
	<hr/>	£260 18 0
Estimated value of Bankrupt's two houses ..	200 0 0	
	<hr/>	£ 60 18 0

Poor Simple, *simple* as he is, sees how the matter stands, at a glance, and walks quietly off, for fear M. Le Gallais should next present *his* little account, for arresting said L'Escroc and registering said bills against the precious estate. Not so, Mr. Smith—but the actors had better speak in the first person.

*Mr. Smith (glancing nervously on the sus-*

*picious-looking document, as if fearful there were some still-undiscovered latent mischief in it.)*—“Well—well—after all, although I scarcely expected this, there is not much harm done. Let me see—deducting that poor ass Simple’s claim, there are a few pounds balance, I see, in favour of the estate. To be sure, I do not want the house, and that fellow L’Escroc is a horrid villain to have allowed these—what do you call them, Mr. Le Gallais, the ‘arrié—’”

*M. Le Gallais.*—“‘Arriérages de rentes?’—that is, the unpaid interest on the ‘rentes’ (or, mortgages) these gentlemen hold on the estate.”

*Mr. Smith.*—“Yes, yes, I know. It was, Gentlemen, you must all admit, very wrong in Mr. L’Escroc—the fellow’s name occasioned me misgivings from the first—to allow the interest to run on in this manner; and really, Messrs. L’Adroit and Grasp, you ought to have insisted on payment before now—”

*M. L’Adroit.*—“What is the meaning of all this ‘bavardage?’ Do you make yourself ‘tenant?’”

*Mr. Smith.*—“‘Tenant!’ Gentlemen, really there appears to me to be no occasion for any such ceremony. Mr. Simple—the silly dupe! I advised him long ago not to trust this fellow—has given up *his* claim; and your joint demands, Gentlemen, amount to—let me see—just £93 18s.; so that the most eligible plan will be, for you to take the other house, and thus pay yourselves!

(Here Messrs. L'Adroit and Grasp exchange glances which, to the vigilant and practised eye of Mr. Smith—he always prides himself on being a keen observer—look exceedingly suspicious and alarming.)

*Mr. Smith (nervously.)*—“Surely, Gentlemen, there is nothing unreasonable in my suggestion? The, house, which constitutes the estate of the Bankrupt, is admittedly worth one hundred pounds.”

*Messrs. L'Adroit and Grasp (both in a breath).*—“There are two houses, Sir.”

*M. Le Gallais* (who has stood observing this scene—with somewhat the expression of countenance with which one may imagine a skilful angler to watch the struggles of a heavy fish, in whose jaws he has firmly placed his hook, and who is, also, fully confident of the strength of his line—here breaks in, with all that “*suaviter in modo*” for which he is remarkable):—“My dear Sir, these gentlemen wish the affair to proceed according to the legal mode: it is very simple. Do you, Mr. Simple’s claim being forfeited, consent to become ‘tenant’ of this estate”?

*Mr. Smith*—“Why, Sir, I can have no great objection, although I must sell the house immediately, not wanting it; and, in fact, to tell you the truth, I have not any money to lay out on such a purchase: but, if such be the *law*, and as I cannot lose, the house being well worth the ninety pounds odd, I shall have to pay these gentlemen, I—

*M. Le Gallais.*—“ Before you decide, let me put you right. Whoever elects to become ‘tenant,’ pays the expense of the ‘décret.’ ”

*Mr. Smith.*—“ Décret? What, in Heaven’s name! do you mean by ‘décret.’ ”

*M. Le Gallais.*—“ By the ‘décret,’ we mean what you call in England the ‘Commission’: you must pay for working it.”

*Mr. Smith.*—“ And pray, Sir, what may this infernal ‘décret,’ in the issuing of which I call you all to witness I have had no earthly concern, cost? ”

*M. Le Gallais.*—“ It is impossible precisely to tell: perhaps sixty pounds, perhaps less, perhaps more. It is impossible to say exactly. You need not look so alarmed, Sir; you need not, you know, make yourself ‘tenant.’ ”

*Mr. Smith (very pale and agitated.)*—“ I do not think I quite comprehend you, Sir. Do you mean to tell me that, in order to retain possession of the house I bought and paid for five years ago, I must not only pay off the encumbrances on other property, but also beggar myself and family to pay for the working of this ‘décret.’ ”

*M. Le Gallais.*—“ My good Sir, that is the law.”

*Mr. Smith (stamping with fury.)*—“ Then, Sir, your Law, your Court, your Island, are—.”

But the reader must imagine the rest. Can anything, in fact, be more opposed to common sense and reason than such laws? If a man purchase any other kind of property, a ship, for in-

stance, he can buy it without becoming liable either to lose the vessel he buys, or, in certain contingencies, to become proprietor of, perhaps, fifty ships ! They constitute a plan for enriching lawyers and schemers, and it answers admirably, and cuts more ways than one : for instance, a Banker, or other rich money-dealer, lends a large Builder a considerable sum of money, and, possibly having a latent desire to become "tenant" of the estate, presses for instant payment. Now, look at the situation of the unhappy builder in consequence of the operation of this law : he cannot sell *a portion of his property* to pay off this demand, because the person purchasing of him would thereby render himself liable to *all the registered claims* against him, and all the "rentes" created on the *entire* property. Who, a man being pressed (and when a man is pressed, from whatever motive, it is natural to presume him to be involved) would purchase from him at such a time ? No one in his senses. Hence the money-lender attains his object, or forces the unhappy debtor to make over to him, at a great sacrifice, the most valuable of the "rentes," or mortgages, he may possess, on other people's property—for he cannot, under the circumstances, sell them to anybody else ! !

The law of Inheritance, also, operates so as to forbid any stranger from purchasing property which he cannot, in any case, dispose of by will according to his own pleasure. The eldest son cannot be disinherited: and, if there be no

children, the next male heir takes possession, and no testament of the deceased can annul his claim.

### LANDLORD AND TENANT.

In England the law of landlord and tenant differs widely from that of Jersey. There, if you rent a house and agree to pay the rent quarterly or half-yearly, you cannot be in any way molested by the landlord till the complete expiration of the stipulated time:—in Jersey, however, the case is widely different—the landlord can arrest the body or goods of his tenant before the ink is dry upon the lease, for *security* that the rent shall be paid when due; if the house be a ready-furnished one, he will, of course, arrest the person, locking the unfortunate tenant up in gaol, in order that, if he does not get his money, he may be sure of finding his debtor; and what adds infinitely to this injustice towards newly-arrived strangers, is the custom or law which permits the Sheriff to refuse the bail or security of any person, however rich, who is not a landed proprietor.

This absurd distinction seems almost too gross for belief, when it is notorious that the nominal possession of this kind of property affords not the slightest proof of the holder's solvency; but such is the law, and it consequently frequently happens, that a stranger, who may have letters of introduction to the most distinguished of the British residents, few of whom are landed pro-

prietors, is dragged to gaol, or compelled to gratify the cupidity of the landlord, by paying the rent stipulated to be due at future periods at *once*,—whilst any scamp (and there are loads of them in Jersey) in whose name a quarter of wheat rent (value about £16) is registered in court is altogether free from such scandalous impositions.

If a stranger rent an unfurnished house the instant his furniture is there, the landlord may arrest it for security, and it is felony in its proprietor to take away or exchange one article of it; and although it cannot be absolutely sold before the rent is due, yet, if the landlord has any suspicions, however groundless, the Sheriff can put the goods under lock and key, or remove them to a place of safety, leaving the tenant to the comfort of bare walls—but such is the force of habit, that these things pass almost without remark.

But, as a house to live or lodge in is absolutely necessary, to strangers more particularly, (the Jersey people, I really believe, would live in the fields were it not for the shame of the thing) it is necessary to suggest the only means by which such practices can be avoided. First, then, don't be in too great a hurry to become a landed proprietor—bide your time, and see how the cat jumps—take a house by all means, or rather don't take it, unless upon a clear undertaking on the part of the landlord, in writing, *signed by two witnesses*, that such repairs as are required

will be made by a given time—that under no circumstances the *rent, or security for it*, should be demanded till the expiration of his stipulated time. If the British renters of houses refused to sign any lease in which there was not this special provision, they would be quite safe; this is the only remedy, and it is in the hands of the English themselves.

Such an incident as the following is of frequent occurrence: A. B. sees a house which he thinks will suit him; he goes over it and finds that when some repairs are effected and a few alterations made it will be quite eligible as a residence for his family. The landlord promises that all shall be done, and A. B. concludes a verbal engagement to take the house for one year. from next quarter-day, then distant we will suppose a few weeks only. He lives at his hotel during the interim, but finds to his surprise that no attempt is made to effect the alterations and repairs agreed upon. Indignant at such treatment, he writes to the landlord, stating that under such circumstances he shall not take possession of the house at all, and not finding, perhaps, any other likely to suit him, he prepares to return to England, but he finds himself in the custody of the Sheriff one fine morning for the rent of the whole term, and if he does not choose to pay it, or find some one of landed property who will be bound for the payment, he must go to prison and remain there. Never, therefore, enter into verbal agreements with Jersey people;

written ones are dangerous enough, but oral bargains about houses are fatal.

### LAW OF DEBTOR AND CREDITOR.

The sharp Sheriff practice of seizing for security for ultimate payment distinguishes also this branch of jurisprudence. Arrest of either goods or person in Jersey requires not the slightest ceremony. The Creditor, either real or pretended, goes to the Sheriff with his account, who accompanies him and arrests either the debtor or his goods *instanter*; in some instances, it is thought most advisable to arrest the household furniture and the stock-in-trade, in which case, no matter that the defendant asserts the claim to be illegal, unjust or extortionate, and that he will resist payment, his shop is closed, and his effects put under seal as a preliminary step in the suit, unless he can find landlord bail to pay the debt, if the court should ultimately decide upon its validity; if he can find no such security to pay, his shop is kept closed under the Sheriff's seal till the decision of the Inferior Court; and, if an appeal is made, till that of the full court in his favor is pronounced—and that may not be for years afterwards. To effect this ruin, the creditor has not even the formality of an oath to go through, and if the full court at last dismisses the claim, and the defendant is discharged from the action, a triumphant beggar, he has not the slightest claim in law to any redress. Individuals not possessed of landed pro-

perty, may also be arrested and lodged in gaol (unless they give security for payment) on a note of hand, not due, perhaps, for many months. It should also be mentioned that a landed proprietor cannot be arrested or held to bail, except for a note of hand, but must be sued even for the smallest sum through a long and tedious process, which operates as an entire denial of justice. For example, an English resident, not a landed proprietor, has a demand made against him for, suppose £5 16s., he is perfectly able to prove that the demand is an imposition and double what he ought to pay, but he is liable to immediate arrest for it, and his best friends all advise him to pay it without hesitation or delay.

Again, a poor man has a just claim against one of these landed proprietors for a very trifling debt, and the debtor refuses to pay, the swindled plaintiff has no remedy, but to pocket the wrong instead of the money. There is also a peculiar law, by which the native rogues can set at defiance his creditors. A wife goes before the Court and obtains a separation from her husband (as far as regards property), by this process husbands are not liable for the debts of their wives, nor for her maintenance; by this act all the personal property of the husband becomes the exclusive property of the wife, present and future. This plan is often resorted to to cheat grasping landlords.

## NEWSPAPERS.

In Jersey, there are five French papers—the *Chronique*, the *Constitutionnel*, the *Impartial*, the *Jersiais*, and the *Miroir*. The *Chronique* (published on Wednesdays and Saturdays) is the representative of the Rose, or “Low” party; or rather of that section of it who, having displaced the Laurel, or “High” party, upon pretences of effecting reforms in the legislative, judicial and executive branches of the local government, are now content to let things remain in that fixed rusty state, of which the miserable dirty statue in the Royal Square is no unfitting personation: whilst the *Impartial* and the *Jersiais* (virtually but one paper, with two titles, the one affixed to its Wednesday, the other to its Saturday publication) represents those Rosemen who are inclined to such reforms in the administration (the establishment of a Court of Requests, for instance) as are more evidently and glaringly demanded by the improved spirit of the times—so long, be it observed, as they do not take a decidedly *British* direction. The *Constitutionnel* (published only on Saturdays) is the organ of the Laurels, who whilst in office were opposed to all reformation in the laws and law-practices of the Island, but are now, in their comparatively powerless state, become advocates for change and improvement, and indicate a certain leaning towards the feelings, opinions and wishes of the British residents; which, however, would pro-

bably be no longer observable, were they again to be paramount in the States and the Court. The *Miroir* is only a small and obscure Saturday print, mainly established for the purpose of reaping such pecuniary advantages as are derivable from the advertisements of the Island Government, which it is compelled by law to insert in every local *Saturday* newspaper printed in the French language—which is also the inducement for the proprietor of the *Impartial* and *Jersiais*, already referred to, to republish his Wednesday journal on Saturday, with an altered title. The local *English* papers are deprived of the advantage of these said Government-advertisements, the law assigning them to the *French* Saturday journals having been passed before any *English* newspaper was established in the Island. That law should now be extended so as to embrace *all* the local papers; as thousands of the British residents never see any of the journals printed in the French idiom, and much detriment to the public service is the result. Sales of property, for instance, under the orders of the Sheriff, advertised exclusively in those journals, are often inadequately productive in consequence of that illiberal and impolitic limitation of publicity. Of the Jersey *French* papers generally, we may say that they are but poorly and lazily conducted; and as *newspapers* are utterly contemptible. Too idle, for the most part, or too incapable, to translate direct from the London journals, their Editors very coolly

wait for the *Estafette*, or some other Paris paper, and thence copy the English “news,” already rendered to their hands in the Gallic vernacular.

The Jersey English newspapers are five—the *British Press* and the *Jersey Times*, both published on the mornings of Tuesday and Friday, and the *Jersey Gazette*, issued on the evenings of Monday and Thursday. The *Jersey Chronicle*, published on Thursday morning, and the *Jersey and Guernsey News*, published every Saturday morning.

### EDUCATION.

There are several excellent schools both in St. Helier's and other parts of the Island, chiefly presided over by natives, with some two or three exceptions; but the expence of education in Jersey is rendered higher than otherwise, by the cost of sending children from England, and returning half-yearly. To those whose parents reside in the Island, numerous establishments exist for day scholars, and masters in the various continental langunges are very plentiful, but they must necessarily be of very moderate abilities, or they would never sag for one guinea a quarter.

There is no endowed place of education as in Guernsey, excepting the two parish schools of St. Anastose and St. Manelier, founded in the reign of Henry VII., but now utterly ineffective for want of the necessary funds, to the disgrace of the wealthy Islanders.

## SPORTING.

The Island of Jersey is a dull place for those who are partial to field sports: the appearance of a solitary strayed snipe, woodcock, or duck, is sufficient to set all the sportsmen (i.e. tinkers and tailors) in full chase, from "Grosnez" to "La Rocque." On walking near the beach and highways, keep a look out for the juvenile "poppers," who are eternally frightening the sparrows. Watching the signal post, reading the Newspapers, and attending the arrival and departure of steam-packets is the only sport.

## BATHING

May be enjoyed in perfection, either "au naturel," or from machines, at Havre de Pas, or the Bay of St. Aubin's—at the former place there are convenient and abundant rocks upon which to undress, in comfort, either at high or low tide, (the former is the safest); here the shore shelves down so gradually, and the bed of the sea so smooth, firm and pebbleless, that in fine weather nothing can be enjoyed at this place more than a dip in the sea.

## CENSUS FOR 1841.

*Return of the Population of the Island of Jersey,  
taken on the 6th day of June, 1841.*

PARISHES.	HOUSES.			POPULATION.		
	Habit.	Unh.	Buil	Males.	Fem.	Total.
St. Helier .....	2,353	134	127	10,912	13,069	23,981
St. Saviour .....	443	13	4	1,218	1,514	2,732
St. Martin .....	378	17	1	1,265	1,446	2,711
Trinity .....	370	5	1	1,157	1,334	2,491
Grouville .....	312	2	0	1,107	1,265	2,372
St. Peter .....	356	11	3	1,002	1,278	2,280
St. Ouen .....	351	3	1	979	1,285	2,264
St. Lawrence ..	350	7	0	1,013	1,157	2,170
St. Brelade .....	391	47	8	958	1,212	2,170
St. John .....	280	5	2	874	972	1,846
St. Clement ..	220	2	3	666	825	1,491
St. Mary .....	170	5	1	460	578	1,038
	5,974	251	151	21,611	25,935	47,546

## THE ISLAND OF JERSEY

Enjoys the usual insular privileges of being surrounded by the sea fifteen miles from the Coast of France, twelve miles in length, and about seven in breadth; the approach from Guernsey is by the Corbière Point, St. Boelases Bay, and Noirmont Point, enter the Bay of St. Aubin, and, passing Elizabeth Castle, anchor off, or enter the harbour of St. Helier's, the pleasures of landing are fully described at page 26, to which, with the rates of porters and boatmen, I beg to refer.

In addition to St. Helier's, which is the Metro-

polis of the Island, there are eleven other parishes, St. Martin, St. Saviour, Trinity, St. John, St. Mary, St. Lawrence, St. Peter, St. Brelade and St. Ouen, Grouville, and St. Clement; to visit these different parts and to become acquainted with all the beauties of the Island, it will be necessary to divide them into six excursions, which may be curtailed, or not, according to physical abilities.

The town of St. Helier's will, of course, be explored first, and therefore we will begin with the

### FIRST DAY'S EXCURSION.

Passing the Town Church of St. Helier's, ascend to Fort Regent, built at the beginning of the present century at the cost of the enormous sum of a million sterling; a beautiful view is obtained from the ramparts, which are gained by several flights of stone steps; here is placed the signal-post, which is a source of great amusement to the idlers, who generally contrive to get in view of it wherever they may be during the day, so that the fresh arrivals by steam packets may pass in review before their optics. Elizabeth Castle, built in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, is surrounded by the sea, at high-water, but may be reached by a ridge of rocks at low-water; on the summit of a rock near it are the remains of the ancient hermitage of St. Helier—this fortress, so important during the period of the common-wealth, is now in a com-

paratively dilapidated state—a gunner and a few artillery-men being its only inhabitants. If you return by the rocks, you must be careful that the tide is not likely to overtake you. Step into the Town Church, in which there is a tablet to the memory of Major Pierson, who was killed in the Royal Square, whilst heading his troops against the French, who landed on the Island in 1781. Adjoining the church is the *Post Office*. On the arrival of the bags from the steamer, a flag is hoisted from the staff in the corner; when the letters are sorted and ready for delivery, it is hauled down—adjoining, is the Royal Square, in which is the Royal Court, the States, the Royal Saloon, a Circulating Library, three distinct offices for Newspapers, three Hotels, a boarding-house, four grog shops, and a black-hole, not forgetting the dirty figure, in the attitude of a ballet master, said to be a statue of George II., but, as like as a pea is to an oyster. The extreme corner, on the left of the Square, (which, by the bye, is flagged and always clean, which is some consolation to the poor devils of suitors who have to pace it for hours, waiting their turn in the Court House,) will lead into Halket Place; here is the principal market for the sale of meat, poultry, vegetables, and butter—Market days, Wednesday and Saturday. The fish market is reached by crossing Beresford-street, but there is scarcely ever a good supply, owing to the laziness of the Jersey fishermen. The cattle market and French market (where

dogs meat, called mutton, is sold,) complete the number. Saturday being the fashionable day for laying in the good things of this life, the markets and principal streets present a gay and animated scene, ladies with their baskets full\* of butter, eggs, fruit, and occasionally a carrot or parsnip peeping from beneath a bouquet of flowers, elbowing the Gentlemen, who, as in duty bound, carry the heavy goods in the shape of a goose or a turbot (when they can catch one).

*The Theatre* and *St. James' Church* nearly touch at the extremities: the former is seldom open, the latter is always fully and fashionably attended, and, no doubt, will continue to be so, while the present minister (Mr. Langstone) continues his evangelical preachings; the building is a modern Gothic erection. The *Workhouse* and *Gaol* occupy a site near the Parade: the latter is only remarkable for the numerous victims of the abominable Jersey laws, who are immured within its walls. The *Esplanade* and *Harbour*, and a notice of the operation at the new *Pier*, will, no doubt, be sufficient to complete this day's excursions, and satisfy the visitor that whatever the country may be, the town is neither remarkable for architectural beauty, modern improvements, nor is it desirable as a place of

\* It is the custom for the *élite* of Jersey, both Native and Foreign, to carry home their marketing. A capital plan to save the expence of a servant, and secure the weight and measure of the provisions.

residence. But a sort of new town is springing up on the Northern and Western sides of the old town, in every way preferable for size, situation, appearance, and salubrity of situation.

### SECOND DAY.

The Princes Tower is the next point of attraction. Passing up Queen-street, La Motte, St. Saviour's Road, by Government House, bearing to the right about two miles, we arrive at a garden, in which is *la Hougue Bie*, or Princes Tower, the legend of which is as follows, inserted for the information of the romantic young ladies who delight in such things:—"A neighbouring part of the Island was, once upon a time, infested by a devouring dragon, which threatened the entire population with speedy annihilation; a Norman Lord, named De Hambie, living at Coutances, in France, attended by a single follower, crossed the water and encountered and slew the dragon. Being exhausted with the unnatural fight, he fell asleep, during which he was most unnaturally murdered by his *faithful* servant, who returned to his widowed mistress, assuring her that her lord had been suffocated by the pestilential breath of this serpent antagonist; and that, in his last moments, he had expressed a wish that she should bestow her hand upon him, his faithful follower; she married the man accordingly, but his conscience troubling him, he at length confessed what he had done, and for this piece of ingenuousness was of course

nanged, and her afflicted ladyship, as an evidence of her undying affection for her murdered lord, caused a mound of earth to be reared on the spot where he was slain, and on its summit a tower and chapel of so great a height that she might see it from her Castle at Coutances." To ascend to the top, a charge of sixpence is made by those who rent the premises, consisting of, in addition to the tower, a tavern, tea garden, ball room, stables, &c. so that those who require it, may be supplied with refreshment in the upper story, and thus gratify their taste; at the same time you will behold one of the most lovely views not to be equalled for extent and variety in any other part of the Island. "I have never," says Mr. Inglis, "failed to be delighted with the view from this spot, which is not only interesting, as at once laying open the whole character and extent of the Island, but as being in itself inexpressibly beautiful. Jersey appears like an extensive pleasure ground—one immense park, thickly studded with trees, beautifully undulating, and dotted with cottages. Fertility is on every side seen meeting the sea; the fine curves of several of the bays may be distinctly traced, with their martello towers, and other more imposing defences; several of the larger vallies may be distinguished by the shadow which is thrown upon one side; while, all around, the horizon is bounded by the blue sea, excepting towards the east, where the French coast is seen stretching in a wide curve towards the south and

north, and in one direction approaching so near to Jersey, that the white sea-beach is distinctly seen, and in clear weather even the towns that lie near the coast." On leaving the grounds turn sharply to the left, then to the right, into the main road to St. Martin's Church; passing through the yard of the church, turn to the left to Rozel Harbour, coast along the cliffs to Boulay Bay; the scenery at this part is bold and precipitous; from Boulay Bay the walk may be extended across the heights to Bonne Nuit, from whence to St. Helier's there is a direct road across the Island.

### THIRD DAY.

Proceeding by the road underneath the Fort, pass the New Pier, to Havre de Pas, where a dip in the sea may be enjoyed either from a machine or the rocks, and at high tide the swimmer may indulge in a delightful dive—or coast along a fine sandy beach to La Rocque Plate, where the French landed in 1781—in the distance is Sey Moir Tower; turn inland through the villages of St. Clements and Grouville—in the Church-yard of the latter is a monument erected to the memory of seven soldiers, who were killed at the period above-named. Taking the road to the right will lead to Gorey, a bustling seaport; turn speedily to the left, for the romantic remnant of Mont Orgueil Castle, clothed in ivy; this place is mentioned in the early history of the Island as affording a refuge to Charles II—sixpence is

charged by the keeper to enter and ascend to the top. From the Castle proceed to the brow of the jutting headland, from whence, on a clear day, the shores of Normandy, with its towers and churches, are distinctly visible: from this spot the usual route is to view the druidical remains near Anne Port; from thence to the beautiful Bay of St. Catherine, at the further end of which the road will lead you to town, by St. Martin and St. Saviour. On Saturday evenings the vessels employed in the oyster fishery, amounting to between two and three hundred sail, return to harbour—in fine weather the sight is lovely.

#### FOURTH DAY.

By St. Aubin's Omnibus to the turning leading to St. Peter's Valley, and proceed to Cape Grosnez, the extreme north-western part of the Island; near Grosnez are the ruins of a Castle, in the shape of an archway—to view it you must cross a sort of heath turning to the right out of the road. Passing through the said archway you will have a romantic and beautiful scene from the farthest pinnacle of rocks, with the raging sea beneath you, Guernsey, Serk, and the other Islands in front, and the French Coast stretching away to the right. Plemont Point is another headland, in the neighbourhood of which are numerous caves or caverns; in exploring any of these care should be taken to do so when the tide is *falling*. An up and down journey will bring

you to the pretty Cove of Grêve de Lecq, forming the centre of the Bay, of which Plemont and Rondnez Points form the extremities—this spot is celebrated for *pic nic*-ers; whence the road through the parishes of St. Mary and St. Lawrence will lead to the sands of St. Aubin's, or St. Helier's Bay—between the first and second martello towers.

### FIFTH DAY.

The road opposite the third martello tower, on the St. Aubin's road, will take you to St. Peters. On passing the church, turn to the left, towards St. Ouen's, to St. Ouen's pond, the only piece of fresh water in the Island, of about twenty acres in extent, well stored with fish; from this spot a short walk will bring you to the bay of St. Ouen; this part of the Island is exposed to the great Atlantic Ocean, which has caused the sand to drift to a great extent, and rendered large portions of the land a mere desert. Return by St. Peter's barracks to St. Aubin's, formerly a great place of trade, and inhabited by the principal merchants; at the present time it is a favorite residence of many English families, who procure houses and lodgings cheaper than in St. Helier's; omnibuses run to and fro several times during the day—our pedestrian may either avail himself of the above mode of conveyance, or tramp across the sands to his resting place.

## SIXTH DAY.

Again, towards St. Aubin's to Noirmont Point, the south-western extremity of St. Aubin's Bay, leave the tower on your left, and crossing the hills descend into Portlet Bay, traversing which, and ascending and descending from the rocky heights into St. Brelade's Bay, you have a beautiful combination of sea and land prospects; the church of St. Brelade bears the date of 1,111; in the church-yard are the remains of an ancient chapel, on the walls of which are some traces of the work of some ancient artist. A steep road passing the church on the right, and a sharp turning to the left, across the open country, keeping the signal-post close on your left, bring you to Corbeir Point, a grand accumulation of broken and dispersed rocks, and beautiful to boot—at low water is the best time to visit this wilderness of rocks, forming, as they do, a thousand fantastic shapes. Again you have the sister Islands in the distance—from this to the Church of St. Brelade is a short distance, thence to St. Aubin's again, and we wish you a good night's rest after your many *ups* and *downs*, merely observing that you are at perfect liberty to change the order of these excursions according to circumstances; and if you have still some days to remain, you cannot do better than make a tour of the Island, travelling all the way by the shore or sheep walks on the cliffs as they present themselves, which may be accomplished

in two or three days, according to your perambulating powers, when you may justly lay claim to having seen this beautiful Island both inside and outside.

In the rambles over the Island the stranger will not fail to notice the numerous martello towers, which stud the coast at its most vulnerable parts, and add greatly to the picturesque effect.

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### FARMING.

The country people, chiefly small farmers, make the most of every patch of ground; so much so, that of late years they have adopted the plan of cutting down the wide banks, which formerly (when land was not so valuable as it now is) contributed much towards the beauty of highways and bye-ways. The average rent of land at present is about seven pounds an acre, and the only persons who can get a living out of the soil as renters of land are hard-working, hard-living, penurious Jerseymen. Very few labourers are employed, the small farmer (and there are few others) must cut his vraic (sea weed), cart it, till his ground, gather his crops, and carry them to market himself, to enable him to pay the landlord and live.

The Island produces all kinds of forest and fruit trees, shrubs, roots, flowers, and herbs (whether medicinal, aromatic, or esculent), all kinds of pulse and corn, but since the great increase of cider, and the inclination of the people

for that liquor instead of beer, so little malt is made in the Island that it would be scarcely worth while to sow any barley at all, were it not for the purpose of being converted into bread.

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### CIDER.

Cider is now produced in great quantities; at the period when Mr. Fall wrote his History of Jersey, in 1699, the quantity made amounted to twenty-four thousand hogsheads, and from the earliest times cider seems to have been the principal beverage of the country. In the claims of expenses incurred in blockading Mount Orgueil Castle, in 1487, there is an item for twelve pipes of cider. The besieging party consisted of only twenty-five men, so that during the seige, which lasted half-a-year, it would have been an allowance of rather less than two quarts a day for each man.

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### RIVERS.

In Jersey there are none, but streams innumerable issue out of two little valleys, into which the Island is diversified; many of these have a circuitous course of several miles, and, rising mostly at about a mile from the north coast, flow in a southerly direction, the most considerable of which, after turning several mills, fall into St. Aubin's Bay.

### WELLS.

The most remarkable are those of Mount Orgueil Castle and Fort Regent, the latter was sunk about 35 years ago, and is more than 200 feet deep from the surface of the hill, and goes down considerably below the level of the sea. In dry weather the ordinary wells as also the rivulets want water, which is attended with much inconvenience. Elizabeth Castle is badly supplied with well water, and its chief resource is principally from rain preserved in cisterns.

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### MINERAL SPRINGS

Have at different times been discovered in the Island, but none as yet have obtained any favour in the opinion of the faculty. Ores and minerals have also been occasionally found, but in such small quantities that they have not been thought worthy the notice of those who have so many and more certain means of employment.

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### FISH—CONGERS.

In the early ages, when the inhabitants of the Islands had but little trade, their attention was much engaged in this valuable fishery, and when it was abandoned is not recorded; but to shew the importance of the trade, it is only necessary to recollect that it was made one of the articles of King John's Charter, and the duty on it

afforded a large revenue to the King's Rent Roll. Fresh water fish is very scarce in Jersey—a few carp and tench, taken from St. Ouen's pond (the only one in the Island), is occasionally offered for sale in the market. The modern fishermen are now as indolent as their ancestors were industrious in this branch of trade.

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### MEAT.

The mutton consumed in Jersey is chiefly brought from France, and poor scraggy looking stuff it is. The veal is reared in the Island. The principal part of the beef, and occasionally a few sheep, are brought from England. The rearing of sheep is little attended to in Jersey, the country being better adapted to other kinds of produce. Pigs there are in abundance.

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### HORSES.

The Island supply of these useful animals is by no means equal to the wants of the inhabitants. As no tax exists it will naturally be supposed that, for pleasure as well as for profit, great numbers are used by the English residents as well as by the respectable portion of the Natives. In Mr. Fall's time there were no farriers—at present there are several exercising their art, not only upon Native horses but those from England and France, which are occasionally imported to keep up the supply.

## GAME

Is plentifully supplied from France, but it is not so cheap as it should be, considering the facility of getting it into the Island. The few hares and rabbits which formerly were to be seen have long since been extirpated by the "poppers," although the Jersey code of laws of 1771 protected the lives of all game with christian tenderness. The race of partridge peculiar to the Island, with pheasants eyes, red legs, and feathers of various colours, has long been destroyed, as well as the common grey partridge which was subsequently introduced. In short, although very stringent game laws are even now in existence, a prosecution for their infringement has not occurred for many years.

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## SEA-WEED

Is the manure chiefly used by the farmers—indeed, as the Island produces little or no lime, chalk or marl, it is found to be a valuable substitute; it is called *vraic*, and grows plentifully on the rocks about the Islands; it is gathered only at certain times appointed by law: indeed, the importance attached to this material for dressing or rather fattening the land is so keenly felt that there is no subject for centuries past which has caused so much litigation; it is allowed to be gathered only for two spring tides, and in Summer for only one week, the time is fixed according to the

voices of the majority of the constables, who make a report to the Royal Court of the sense of their parochial assemblies; the decision of the court is then proclaimed to the people by the proper officers. In stormy weather it is amazing to see the quantities of the weed which is cast ashore, when it is properly divided according to the size of the respective estates.

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### TRADE.

It would be difficult to trace the commerce of Jersey from its origin to its present flourishing state; it is, however, conjectured that, during the time of the Governorship of Sir Walter Raleigh, the inhabitants first entered into the Newfoundland fishery. The trade of the Island is now, however, diverted into various channels to supply the wants of the increasing population, showing the fluctuations to which every branch of trade is subject.

It is a remarkable fact that Jersey at one period (and not a very remote one) was considered the land of knitters; it declined by degrees, and at this moment stockings are *imported*, although in former years the enormous quantity often thousand pairs of knitted stockings were sold weekly in the market to the merchants for exportation. The decline first commenced by a reduction in the price given by the merchants, owing, no doubt, to the cheaper rate at which stockings could be had from other places

(produced by machinery) for the foreign market, which finally ruined this branch of industry; yet the privilege of importing the wool was at one time so coveted, that to obtain a license to do so was a matter of some trouble and even favour.

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### MOLES.

The Jurats and Constables of the Island have long carried on a merciless war against this unfortunate race; there are Acts of Parliament for their extermination dated so long back as 1675. It may be superfluous to add that the moles have at the same time eluded the wisdom, the vigilance, and the severity of the States, and continue to increase and multiply, to the mortification of the agriculturists.

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### TOADS

Are very numerous in Jersey; these little merry wag tails are to be seen in great multitudes during the warm and moist weather—their skins are finely speckled and variegated—they inhabit the purest water and infest the fallen fruit. The inhabitants entertain the notion that they draw out what is noxious and impure in the elements, and thereby contribute to health. It is a singular fact that in the Island of Guernsey they are not to be seen, which the people adduce as a proof that Jersey is more healthy than the sister Island.

## HALBERDIERS.

It will be remarked, whenever a prisoner, charged with felony, is being escorted from his prison to the Court-house to be tried, or *vice versa*, that he is surrounded by a number of Halberdiers or pike-men. It appears, that previous to the existence of prisons in the Island, certain owners of estates were bound, by the tenure of their estates, to have the safe custody of prisoners; and, in more recent times, when they were lodged in Mount Orgueil Castle, previous to the erection of the gaol of St. Helier's, these halberdiers had to escort their prisoners from the Castle: they now act in the same capacity as a Sheriff's troop in England, but such a motley assemblage, as they have nothing in common but their pikes: their number occasionally varies, but about one hundred and fifty is about the average, which are entirely at the disposal of the Viscount or Sheriff for keeping the peace, each of whom has, by his tenure, a small allowance of land for his trouble.

## CLAEUR DE HARO.

This ancient relic of the Norman Laws is still acted upon, and a very recent case was brought before the Court by M. De Cateret, wine merchant (I believe in the name of his father), against an Englishman, who refused, or rather treated with contempt this mode of ejection. In this

case M. De Cateret, after repeated attempts to get possession of his premises, repeated the Claeur de Haro, which, according to the law, is the first step previous to a forcible ejectment; if this is unheeded the party is not only liable to be bundled out, *sans ceremonie*, but an action is laid at the suit of the Crown, and a fine to the King is levied on the losing party, whether plaintiff or defendant, because the sacred name of Haro is not to be carelessly invoked with impunity. Rollo was first Duke of Normandy; he entered the Christian faith about the year 915, and proved so worthy a ruler and so famed for his great love of justice, that his very name to this day is not only held sacred in Jersey but throughout Normandy.

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### ROADS.

There are three different descriptions of roads in the Island, namely—The King's Highway, which must be twelve feet broad; the Eight-foot Way and a Four-foot way—these roads are managed by laws of the Court Royal, and they are kept in good condition and improved, as occasion may require, out of the funds at the disposal of the States, without levying tolls on the public. Every year, at midsummer, there is a perambulation of the magistrates to notice the state of the roads. The ceremony is as follows:—The constable of the parish, where the perambulation is to be, takes with him twelve of the principle men of his

parish and meets the Jurats, Sheriff, &c. on horseback. The Viscount rides with his staff of office erect on the pommel of the saddle, he keeps the middle of the way, the constable and his men walking by his side; when his staff encounters a bough or branch hanging over the way, the owner of the hedge is fined,—for any obstruction from the lower part, the fine is levied on the parish.

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### HEALTHINESS OF THE ISLAND.

Mr. Camden, on this subject, says that there was no business here for physicians, and the old inhabitants assert that they never knew what sickness was until doctors become so numerous. In 1836 there were twenty practising physicians and surgeons, at this moment there cannot be less than fifty, and as for retailers of drugs, let any one walk from Snow Hill to Charing Cross, forming one street, but with two names, and notice the chemists shops in the most unprincipled opposition—standing not only next door to each other, but actually so immediately *vis a vis* that the pills and draughts made on one side may be counted by the other !! *If this don't establish the health of the Island I don't know what will.*

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The Assize of the Court for Real Property (*Cour d'Héritage*) is on the first Thursday after the 4th May.

The Autumn Term for the Extraordinary or Saturday Court, commences on the first Saturday after the 11th of September, and concludes on the 5th of December.

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There are five Regiments of Militia in Jersey and in Guernsey. They are effectively disciplined and number in the former Island about three thousand, and in the latter two thousand rank and file. The Officers are appointed by the Lieutenant-Governors. The arms, clothing, ammunition, &c., are provided by the Imperial Government. They assemble for exercise and parade several times during the summer. There are also corps of Artillery in an effective state.

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